



## Revolutionary War Grave Marking Ceremony

By Alexandra Luken, Cave Hill Heritage Foundation

Although Cave Hill was chartered in 1848, it often surprises and delights visitors to hear that we have many Revolutionary War soldiers buried on our grounds. Earlier this Spring, the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) and the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) held Joint Grave Marking Services for three patriots who participated in the battle that won America her freedom.

Among the soldiers honored were:

John Nelson

1745-1845

Section D Lot 46

John Nelson was 13 years old when he enlisted as a drummer boy in the 2nd Continental Artillery Regiment in New York. In 1790, he was awarded 200 acres of bounty land in Kentucky for his service. His monument bears the name "Captain John Nelson" in homage to his years as a shipowner, transporting goods between Louisville and St. Louis.

David Wood Meriwether

1753-1795

Section E Lot 179

Born in Goochland, Virginia, David Wood Meriwether joined the Revolutionary War Army as a private with Captain John Mark's company commanded by Col. William Davies of the 14th Virginia Regiment. He was also a 1st Lieutenant in the Louisa County, Virginia Militia. In 1784, Meriwether moved to Jefferson County with extended family. He served as an early Justice of the Peace and Trustee of Louisville. His parents, William and Martha Cox (Wood) Meriwether, Sr. and several siblings were reinterred in Cave Hill Cemetery with him in 1889.

Frederick Geiger

1753-1832

Section 2 Lot 21

A descendent of German immigrants, Frederick Geiger was born in 1753 in Stone Arabia, New York. He served as a substitute for his brother, John Geiger, in the Revolutionary War. In 1796, he moved to Jefferson County, Kentucky from Maryland. He purchased a saw and grist mill on Beargrass Creek, and ran a public ferry across the Ohio River to Indiana. In 1811, he raised a company of Kentucky Mounted Riflemen and was wounded at the Battle of Tippecanoe.

Grave Marking Service Photographs  
Photos courtesy of Phil Ragland

