

## **VASSAR Color Guard with the Assistance of the Founders and Patriots participated in the Norfolk Chapter Led Grave Marking Ceremony for Lieutenant William Porter**

April 26, 2009 was a beautiful Sunday afternoon in the 90's, just the perfect time to set out marching for Old Towne Portsmouth, Virginia at the request of the Norfolk Chapter.

Dr. Matt Hogendobler, Vice-President Norfolk Chapter, organized an impressive display of Historic Societies SAR, DAR, Founders and Patriots, descendants of William Porter as well as current Church clergy of Monumental UMC and local residents in honoring Lt. Porter.

Lt. William Porter was born *ca.*1749-50 in Norfolk County, Virginia, to William and Patience Porter. His father died 1760-61, and in 1762, his mother married Joshua Nicholson, who, in 1761, had been appointed to the vestry of Elizabeth River parish and, in 1765, signed a petition of the Sons of Liberty protesting the Stamp Act. Nicholson's will was probated two years later.

In 1772, William Porter, the younger, began attending the Methodist Society meetings held in the home of Isaac Luke in Portsmouth. He served as a lieutenant in the Revolution in the 12th Virginia Regiment, returning home to marry Isaac Luke's daughter, Elizabeth, on October 31, 1782. According to early census records, they lived in the Western Branch/Deep Creek area after their marriage. He took the appropriate oath to become a vestryman for Trinity, but he converted to the Methodist church, when it became an independent denomination in 1784. *Photo*

*courtesy of Carter B.S. Furr, Norfolk Chapter*

William and Elizabeth are mentioned in the earliest roster of Monumental UMC.

William was also one of the trustees on their deed when they bought the property now known as "Glasgow Street Park." Tradition holds their first house of worship; "South Street Meeting House" was moved to Glasgow Street, where he would have been buried, when he died on June 20, 1807.

VASSAR Color Guard led by Committee Chairman Larry McKinley consisted of Andrew Johnson and we welcomed our most esteemed colleague Mike Lyman, Governor, Order of Founders and Patriots of America, Virginia Society. Together we displayed and or carried seven different flags adding the appropriate amount of color to honor Lt. William Porter.



*Pictured in Norfolk, Left to Right:  
Col. Andrew Johnson & Larry  
McKinley, VASSAR Color Guard,  
William Simpson, III, Representing  
the Founders and Patriots, and  
Mike Lyman, Governor of the  
Founders and Patriots.*



*Mr. Alf Mapp, nationally  
known authority on Thomas  
Jefferson delivers a talk at  
the ceremony honoring Lt.  
Porter. To his side is Ms.  
Margaret Nix Windley, a  
direct descendent of Lt.  
Porter, a member of the  
Fort Nelson Chapter, DAR  
and Historian, Monumental  
United Methodist Church,  
Portsmouth.*

*Notice the color of the flags  
adding to this  
remembrance.*

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