

## Patriots Day at Arlington National Cemetery

On Sunday, April 18, 2021, the Fairfax Resolves Chapter of the Virginia SAR hosted a hybrid ceremony to honor those who gave their lives on April 19, 1775 at the Battles of Lexington and Concord. Master of Ceremonies for the day was Dave Cook, President of the chapter.

Virginia OFPA Governor Michael Weyler participated, first bringing greetings and then presenting the OFPA wreath virtually. Virginia OFPA Associate Jeff Thomas, President of the Virginia SAR, also brought greetings and presented the VASSAR wreath.



The on-scene portion of the ceremony was held in the Arlington National Cemetery at the site of the Lexington Minute Men Eastern Hemlock Memorial Tree, with on-scene wreaths presented at the plaque near the base of the tree. The plaque, dedicated in 2000, is shown below with the names of the eight who died in that first battle of the Revolutionary War.

From Lexington, the British Column went on to Concord where they were met by and turned by the Patriots at the Concord Bridge, where “the shot heard round the world” was fired. The shot at Concord was significant because it was the first time the British Army, at that time the most powerful in the world, was turned and fled from the battlefield. This caused the world to sit up and took notice that America could fight for her liberty and prevail.

