

Patriot David Stiles (1760-1839) P-298042

by

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Patriot David Stiles was born in 1760 Morristown, Morris County, NJ to Thomas Stiles & Abigail Ogden. He spent his childhood in an area where much Rev War activity took place. Morristown, NJ was strategically located and David had personal contact with Washington's army when it wintered there. He enlisted in the Continental Army at the age of 15 or 16 and this information is recorded in the War Records of New Jersey. As a result of his long service to the new nation, he received a land grant of over five thousand acres on the Rolling Fork River in Nelson County, KY, near Bardstown.

In 1784, David married Elizabeth Kitchell. The father and grandfather of his wife Elizabeth also served the patriot cause. Abraham Kitchell, her father, was an enlisted soldier in NJ Militia but served only on the Committee of Safety. Her grandfather, Judge Joseph Kitchell, was elected Judge of the County and served the new state government during the war. He was too advanced in age to fight in battle.

After the war, David Stiles took his family to their new land in Kentucky. Embracing a pioneer spirit, he built a home and cleared the land for a farm. The family would grow to include children Lewis, Charles, Eunice Kitchell, Densy, John, Rhoda, Abraham, Demas, and David. When David Stiles passed on to his reward in 1839 he was buried in Union Band Cemetery in Nelson County, KY. The marker was a simple hand hewn stone with the initials "D.S. 1760-1839". In 1941 the DAR erected a memorial on his grave site. There is no known SAR marker there as yet.

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