



The Battle of Medina, Texas

And Revolutionary Ancestor Peter Sides

Each year the William Hightower Chapter helps sponsor the Battle of Medina which occurred on 18 Aug 1813. One Revolutionary Ancestor Peter Sides was known to have been killed in that battle. The ceremony starts at the memorial under the Big Oak and a seminar is held in Pleasanton in the afternoon. From left to right are Tom Green (Former Chapter member now living in Pearland), Tom Jones, Unknown SRT member from SA, Jim Clements (Patrick Henry), John Thompson (Houston), Stu Hoyt, Robert Hites (Patrick Henry) and Mike Bailey (Houston).

This year Tom Green and Stu Hoyt laid a wreath at the memorial site to honor Peter Sides. A number of people representing the Northern Expeditionary



Force, Texians, Native American Indians and even the Mexican Army join together in a three round Salute to the fallen.

Peter and Barbara and their family lived briefly in Kentucky, where my ancestor John Sides was born. John and his brother Jacob Sides served for Louisiana in the War of 1812.

From there, Peter and Barbara moved to East Baton Rouge Parish about 1799, along with some of the Kuykendalls and Barbara's Carpenter relatives. Sides historians are looking for evidence that Peter was involved in the Second Battle of Baton Rouge in 1810 as such activity against Spain would concur with his military and political precedents.

Peter Sides joined the Gutierrez-Magee expedition to free Texas from Spain in 1812, and was killed in the Battle of Medina on August 18, 1813 by the Spanish Army led by General Arrendondo. Most of the Republican Army of the North were killed in this battle and their remains were left on the field of battle for several years. Years later, the remains were buried in one mass grave under a large Oak tree on the banks of the Medina River located south of San Antonio, Texas in Bexar County.

The battle of Medina is known as the bloodiest battle on Texas soil. The rebels' bodies were desecrated and their body parts were removed and scattered. Arrendondo ordered them not to be buried and the remnants lay on the battlefield until 1822.

At the time of Peter's death, he was about 63 years old



dall, Edwards, Wells, Fridge, Hubbs, McCulloch and many others.

Peter Sides is the progenitor of many people in the Baton Rouge area today and another line of descendants of his daughter Elizabeth and Jonathan Kuykendall went to Texas. His descendants include people with the surnames, Sides, Kuyken-

Zimmerman - prior to the American Revolution "foreign" surnames had to be Anglicized). Peter and Barbara's father Christian both signed a declaration of patriotism against the crown out in Tryon County, NC in 1755.

Following the war, Peter was one of the first settlers in Davidson County TN in the area that would become Nashville.

