

Doctor Peggy Warne

Revolutionary War Heroine

(October 1, 1751 – October 3, 1840)

(Barbara's 4th great grand aunt)

The story of Dr. Peggy Warne is one of courage, endurance, and dedication to others during the Revolutionary War, and the years that followed the war. Prior to the outbreak of the war Margaret was on equal parity with many of the local town doctors and was afforded equal social standing within both the local and state medical communities. Margaret was not only a competent physician and surgeon, she also possessed excellent horsemanship skills and knew the countryside well and made her journeys of medical assistance with sure swiftness and without much delay. Margaret's horse was kept at stable in the family barn in full bridle and tack both day and night ready at a moments notice to service Margaret in her numerous medical missions. Margaret traveled in all sorts of weather, with her saddlebags filled with medicinal herbs, medical equipment and other medicines of the day to care for her fellow ailing citizens.

At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War Margaret was called upon to serve not only her fellow citizens in her area, she was called upon to attend to service the needs of the soldiers and their families who were so in need of her medical attention. Margaret attended to these soldiers and their families without regard to both their military and social status, as many of the local town male doctors had gone off to serve in the armies of the war and Margaret was left to care for the counties sick and wounded.

In an instant Margaret could be counted on to go astride her horse and off in a flash to render medical aid and assistance to the sick and wounded soldiers and their family without charge throughout the surrounding counties. Amongst her medical duties to the sick and wounded during the war, Margaret was also an excellent obstetrician and mid-wife and helped usher a large population of Warren County, New Jersey, into the world during her time as a doctor.

Doctor Peggy was an American patriot whose medical talents served so many others in great need of her assistance during the time of war, and continued to administer medical assistance to those in need well into the 19th Century well into the twilight of her years of her life, as she would ride on horseback with her trusty saddlebags in hand.

In her early twenties, Peggy married Joseph Warne (1748-1798). They lived on a tract of 130+ acres which was left to Joseph in his father's will. They bought some additional land from two of his brothers, Elijah and Elisha. Only a little stone building remains.

Peggy's husband Joseph Warne died in 1798 and some time later Peggy married his brother, Elijah. Peggy continued to practice medicine for many years, and lived to the age of 102, dying in 1849. Elijah died in 1844.

On 30 May 1915, Memorial Day 1915, Margaret "Peggy" Vliet Warne's grave, at the Mansfield Cemetery in Washington Twp, Warren Co, New Jersey, was presented with a memorial boulder

embossed with a bronze tablet by the “Peggy Warne Chapter” of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Margaret Vliet was the daughter of Daniel Vliet, a Captain in the American Revolutionary War.

What is truly astonishing about him and his family was that he and seven of his nine children served as patriots during the Revolutionary War. Two sons, Daniel Jr. and David served at some time under their father's leadership, and other sons -- Garret, John, Jasper, and William -- served in other units.

Daniel married Charity Geertje (Springsteen) Vliet on November 16, 1746, in the Flatbush (Long Island) Dutch Reformed Church. Soon after their marriage, they were living at Six Mile Run in New Jersey. Their daughter Margaret was baptized in the Dutch Reformed Church there on October 26, 1754.

Daniel Vliet served as Captain in Hunterdon and Sussex County militias (Warren County had not yet been created) throughout the Revolutionary War. He served as a Captain in the Revolutionary War militia for multiple terms and commanded a company in the Second Regiment, Hunterdon County militia. He also served as captain under Colonel Mark Thompson, First Regiment, Sussex County militia, for a term.

Daniel's son Garret became a Major General during the war of 1812. and Daniel's daughter Margaret gave patriotic service, offering sustenance to nearby troops and working in the capacity of a physician and midwife during the entirety of the war. Daniel's youngest son, Abraham, wanted to join the militia but he did not make the age regulations; New Jersey imposed the restriction of 16 to 60 years of age.