

## Titus Chapman

**Revolutionary War patriot, Titus Chapman**, was born 30 September 1744 in Westbrook, Middlesex County, Connecticut to Nathaniel Chapman and Mary Denison the fifth of ten children. From 1755-1762 he participated in the French and Indian War in the Connecticut First Regiment. On September 24, 1767, Titus married Elizabeth Kelsey, daughter of Gamaliel and Mary (Gray) Kelsey, at the New Haven Second Church, Westbrook, and Middlesex County, Connecticut. Here in Middlesex County, Titus and Elizabeth gave birth to children Nathaniel in 1768, Titus 1770, Mary 1773.

Titus began his Revolutionary War service by enlisting May 1775 as a private in Captain Thomas Hobby's company (Third) of Greenwich and Stratford, CT., Fifth regiment, Col. David Waterbury.

Between 1776 and 1777 Titus and Elizabeth moved to Salisbury, Litchfield County, Connecticut where the rest of their children were born. William was born in 1776, Nancy 1778, Abisha 1782 and Betsey 1788. Litchfield County is located in the northwest corner of Connecticut. In the early 1700's iron was discovered and Salisbury developed into an area with a vital iron industry. This iron was used to make gun barrels and thus Salisbury became a critical town to protect during the Revolutionary War. In May 1777 Titus was a guard at the Salisbury Furnace. Titus Chapman appears in the "List of Government Guards" during the months of May and June 1777.

In 1792 Titus' wife, Elizabeth, died in Salisbury, Connecticut. In the early 1800's Titus with his son, Nathaniel Chapman, and Nathaniel's family traveled to the Northwest Territory. They settle in what was Trumbull County, Ohio that became part of Portage County and then in 1808 became Summit County, Ohio. They settled in what was then Tallmadge, Ohio and know today as Akron, Ohio. Shortly after arriving in Tallmadge, Summit County, Ohio, Titus Chapman dies and is buried in Middlebury Cemetery. This first burial ground in Akron and was established in 1808 as a gift from Titus Chapman who was also the first person interred there when he died in November of 1808. Titus Chapman was the first of many Revolutionary War patriots buried in Middlebury cemetery and the cemetery was used until 1853.

Patriot of Howard Lee Roberson, Louisville Thurston Chapter of SAR