

# Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War

**Office of the Commander-in-Chief**

**Perley E. Mellor, Commander-in-Chief**

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**General Order #9**

**SERIES 2012-2013**

**11 December 2012**

It has come to my attention that a Real Daughter, Caruth Smith Washington, age 104 of Monroe, New Jersey, passed away on November 20, 2012, at Cranbury Nursing Home, Monroe. She was the daughter of a Civil War Medal of Honor recipient and believed to be the last direct descendant of a slave in America.

Born to the late Gertrude Catlett Smith and Color Sergeant Andrew Jackson Smith, Caruth was an educator and community activist in CA and NY. She was predeceased by her husband, Dr. Edward L. Washington: son, Ricque Le'Seur, Sr.; sister, Susan Shelton. Survived by her grandchildren, China, Bart, Che, and Ricque Le'Seur, Jr.,wo nephews; one niece and a host of relatives and friends.

The memorial service was Wed., Dec. 5th at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens, 771 Somerset Street, Somerset. The Arrangements are by Anderson Funeral Service. No mention of where she is buried.

The obit is in Central Jersey newspaper, online (see below) and published in Home News Tribune on December 4, 2012:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/mycentraljersey/obituary.aspx?n=caruth-smith-washington&pid=161454506#fbLoggedOut>.

All membership badges, Camp and Department charters and the National website shall draped in black until 10 January, 2013 in remembrance of Real Daughter Caruth Smith Washington.

Ordered this 11th Day of December, 2012.

Perley E. Mellor.  
Commander-In-Chief  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Eugene Mortorff  
Secretary,  
National Order, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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