

Kevin L. Martin Commander in Chief Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #8 Series 2024-2025 1 December 2024

Passing of Past Department of Missouri Commander and Charitable Foundation Chairman Robert M. Petrovic

My Brothers, I have the sad obligation to convey to you the passing of Past Department Commander Robert M. Petrovic on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday November 28, 2024. PDC Petrovic was also the Chairman of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Charitable Foundation. Known by most as simply "Brother Bob," he was a force at the Camp, Department and National Organization levels. His superb management of the Foundation helped provide much needed funding for the many worthy charities and projects our Order supports.

While it would be impossible to note all of his many achievements, in 1996 Brother Bob became the first Commander of the reorganized Department of Missouri. In a few short years he helped organize the memorable 2001 National Encampment in Springfield, Missouri and again he was instrumental in hosting the 2007 event in St. Louis. For well over a decade Brother Bob, with able assistance from his beloved wife Cher, steered the annual President Lincoln Tomb Ceremony and associated gatherings. This signature event shines a bright and very complimentary light on our Order and Brother Bob's tireless work helped make that happen.

There is one particular aspect of Brother Bob's membership that I find especially poignant, and this is something that speaks directly to his character, pride and sense of duty. Many of you may not know that for a significant period, Brother Bob's membership in our Order was that of an Associate. As we honor the courage and sacrifice of all those who helped preserve the Union most of us have a familial relation to one or more of these brave men. But Brother Bob came in to our Order without that bond, and yet that did not detract from his dedication to our tenets of venerating those heroes. It was not until 2012 that he was able to discover a Union ancestor. And although his membership status may have changed, Brother Bob's resolve and dedication to serve remained steadfast.

No one should be surprised that Brother Bob's dedication to service was far from limited to just our Order. A devoted first responder, Brother Bob had an illustrious career in the fire service retiring from the Affton, Missouri Fire Department as a Captain. We join together as Brothers with his family and his community mourning his passing.

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Cards of condolence may be addressed to his wife (Sister) Cher Petrovic at:

6519 Cherokee Lane Cedar Hill, MO 63016-2527

In homage to our departed Brother it is hereby ordered that the National Website, Charters of all Department and Camps and membership badges be draped in black for a period of 30 days from the date of this General Order.

So ordered this 1st Day of December, 2024

Keni Z. Marti

Kevin L. Martin Commander-in-Chief Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

National Secretary

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War