



**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**  
**Office of the Commander-in-Chief**  
**Donald L. Martin**  
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**Chillicothe, Ohio**  
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**General Order # 18**  
**SERIES 2016-2017**  
**12 March 2017**

Brothers,

It is with a heavy heart that I report the passing of Past Commander-in-Chief Elmer F. (Bud) Atkinson. Born on July 4, 1924, he resided in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania all his life. In 1938, he joined the Anna M. Ross Camp #1, SUVCW in Philadelphia and served as Commander-in-Chief from 1993-1994.

Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, Bud enlisted in the Army, served for four years in an armored unit in the European theatre and remained in the Active Army Reserves for 20 additional years before retiring with the rank of Sergeant Major. In the early 1980's Bud founded the 28th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) and eventually rose to the rank of Colonel commanding the SVR 2nd Military District. He retired from this post in 1997 and began service as Inspector General of the SVR.

Employed as a professional firefighter by the city of Philadelphia, Bud retired after 24 years to become the Manager of an air conditioning company. He subsequently worked as the Assistant Building Supervisor for a large insurance company. His final retirement was in 1986.

He assumed the presidency of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Civil War Museum and Library in Philadelphia in 1982, under his guidance; the Board was eventually able to open the museum to the public for tours and lectures. He served for ten years on the Board of Directors of the Frankford Historical Society in Philadelphia; was a Life member of the Disabled American Veterans; Life member of the National Rifle Association; and a member of the American Legion; Boy Scout Merit Badge Counselor and Pennsylvania Hunter Safety Instructor.

I hereby order that the SUVCW National Website and the Charters of all Departments and Camps be draped and that all Brothers attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges. This shall remain so for a period of 30 days.

Ordered this 12th Day of March 2017,

Donald L. Martin  
Commander-In-Chief  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attested:  
**Jonathan Davis**  
Secretary, National Order,  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*Always do everything you ask of those you command. George S. Patton*