

# Revolutionary War Soldiers Buried in Union Cemetery, Toronto

**Joseph Kerr**

**Michael Myers**



Information is available for each Patriot listed above. You may view it by scrolling down through the pages that follow. The Patriots appear in alphabetical order of last name then the first name.

While these specific pages cannot be used as actual proof of Revolutionary War service, it can be very helpful as a guide. The reference section for each Patriot contains all of the sources used to validate the information presented on this webpage and would be invaluable on a membership application for the Sons or Daughters of the American Revolution.

The cemetery is located in Knox Township, Southwest 1/4, Section 25, Tract 4, Range 1. Proceed on Main St. or CR 42, Toronto, up the hill above the city.



**Ebenezer Zane**  
**Chapter**  
Ohio Society, SAR  
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**JOSEPH KERR** (was born in Scotland, lived in York Co., Pa., and Brooke Co. Va., but buried in Toronto, Ohio.)

BORN: 9 August 1760 Scotland (a)

SON OF: unknown

DIED: 14 July 1843 (a, b)

AGE: 83 years (c)

BURIED: Toronto Union Cemetery - Lot S, Section E. (a, b)

MARKER: Yes, the older type of upright military markers placed there by the Toronto Chapter of DAR

MARRIED: Yes, but the date of marriage is not known at this time. ·

**SERVICE IN THE REVOLUTION:**

**General**: Private, York County, Pa, Militia (a. d)

**Specific**: Joseph Kerr was a Private in Capt Thomas Clingan's Company of the York County, Pennsylvania, Militia. The total length of service is not known at this time. He was on the pay roll from 24 August 1782 to 24 October 1782. (d)

**RESIDED**: Joseph was born in Scotland. During the Revolutionary War he lived in York County, Pennsylvania. After the war he lived at Kings Creek in Brooke County, Virginia, now West Virginia. (a)

**SPOUSE**: JANE C. BIGHAM (b)

BORN: 11 July 1773 York County, Pa.

DIED: 28 August 1805 Brooke County, Virginia (a)

BURIED: Toronto Union Cemetery, Jefferson County, Ohio (b)

MARKER: No readable grave marker found

**CHILDREN**: not known at this time

**MORE OF THE HISTORY**: No more information is available at this time.

**REFERENCES**:

(a) Veterans Grave Registration, Jefferson County, Ohio. (Washington, D.C.: Works Project Administration).

(b) Richard Roe, *Jefferson County Cemeteries, #2*, 1997.

(c) Calculated using birth and death years.

(d) Thomas Montgomery, *Archives of Pennsylvania*, Sixth Series, Vol. II, (Harrisburg, Pa.: 1906), pages 658, 659.

**MICHAEL MYERS** (lived in Virginia and after the war lived & died in Jefferson County, Ohio.)

BORN: 1745 (Winchester VA) (a) (e)

SON OF: unknown

DIED: 13 August 1852 (a) (e) AGE: 107 (d)

BURIED: Toronto Union, W Main St., Toronto Ohio. (lot 2, block B, Grave 7) (b)

MARKER: Yes: (f)

MARRIED: Yes, but date of the marriage is not known at this time.

**SERVICE IN THE REVOLUTION:**

**General:** Private in Crawford's Expedition to Upper Sandusky. (c)

**Specific:** Michael Myers was a Private in Captain Hoagland's Company, a w1it of Col Crawford's Expedition against the British and Indians at Upper Sandusky, now in Ohio. (c) Sources list him as a captain and Indian scout but evidence has not been found at this time to support these statements. (e)

**MICHAEL MYERS,**  
Died August 11, 1852, Aged 107 Years,  
Soldier, rest, thy warfare o'er. Dream of battlefield no more.  
All thy conflicts now are past: To thy Home thou'rt gone at last

**RESIDED:** Michael Myers was born in *Virginia* and was one of the first settlers of Knox Township, Jefferson County, Ohio. Knox was one of the original five townships. (d) Michael Myers (an Indian scout, and an unconscious tool of Connelly in aiding to incite the Indians, which resulted in the Dunmore War) owned the site of Toronto, a portion of which town is now in Island Creek Township (t) He settled at the mouth of Croxton's Run, where he built a grist mill, kept a tavern, ran a river ferry and was Justice of the Peace. (t)

**WIFE:** Catherine Strickler (a)

BORN: 1765

DIED: 1861 (f)

BURIED: Toronto Cemetery (t)

**CHILDREN:** (g)

- (1) Mary married (first name unknown) Peck
- (2) George Myers (oldest son)
- (3) Michael Myers, Jr,
- (4) Elizabeth married (first name unknown) Shuster
- (5) John Myers (died before father)
- (6) Jacob Myers (died before father)
- (7) (first name unknown) Myers married Joseph Cochran
- (8) William Myers (youngest son) born 1811 - died 19 April 1899 married Cynthia (maiden name unknown)

**MORE OF HIS HISTORY:** Michael Myers, a member of Colonel Crawford's expedition against the Indians at Sandusky was an early settler in Jefferson Co. He was a famous Indian scout and lived to the remarkable age of 107 years. He is buried in the Toronto Cemetery and on his beautiful monument is inscribed. "Auver Mike Myers, The Indian Scout, died in 1852, aged 107 years." The nickname, "Auver Mike" was given him because of an impediment of speech and "auver, auver" was the way he usually started his sentences. It was said when the "Michael Myers" chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized, that even if no one else's ancestor's descendants joined, Michael Myers' descendants could form a chapter. (d)

Newburg (Sloans, now Toronto) was laid out by John Depuy in 1818, on a portion of the land was given Michael Myers as reward for services as an Indian scout. His son, Michael kept the first hotel (f)

It was on Carter's Run, at the (now) intersection of the roads from Knoxville and New Somerset to the Hollow Rock Campmeeting Grounds, that Michael Myers, in 1774, killed two Indians. This was shortly after he had aided Cresap to kill the two Indians in a canoe while acting as unconscious agents to Dr. Connelly who was devoted to the idea

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## **MICHAEL MYERS** continued

### **MORE OF HIS HISTORY** continued

(being a Tory) that if the Indians were incited to take the warpath, the agitation for American independence from the crown would cease, and it was his scheme to force the Indians to fight by using frontiersmen whose hatred of the savage required but little urging to inflame it into the heat of war spirit. Myers was an easy victim of Connelly's machinations, and he was a notable factor in bringing about the Dunmore War. In a statement made by Myers in 1850, he gave an account of the affray to Lyman C. Draper, he then being about 105 years of age but in full possession of his mental faculty. In May, 1774, he crossed the Ohio River to a point near the mouth of Yellow Creek, in company with two other men, for the purpose of looking at the country. They went up the creek two or three miles and stopped at a spring (Hollow Rock) where they camped for the night. Having spangled (used a noosed rope with which to hobble an animal, especially a horse or cow.) their horse they turned him loose to graze, and kindled a fire. Soon after, they heard the horse's bell tinkling as though he was running rapidly. At first Myers suspected that a wolf had scared the horse and, taking up his rifle, ran to the point of the hill, where he saw the horse standing still and an Indian stooping at his side, trying to loosen the spangles. Myers, without further investigation, shot the Indian; and as soon as he reloaded ran up the side of the hill and discovered a large number of Indians encamped. One Indian with a gun ran toward him, but kept his eyes on the horse. Myers immediately discharged his gun at the second Indian, and without knowing the result of the shot, wheeled and ran toward the spring, but he found his companions had left the camp. Myers returned to the Virginia side, where he found them. The next morning several Indians crossed to Virginia and inquired at the Baker cabin (where Logan's relatives were afterwards murdered) as to who had killed the two Indians the previous evening, but Greathouse (by whose name the Baker cabin is often called to this day) would not permit any one to give the Indians the least satisfaction. This of course, added fuel to the fire. The encampment discovered by Myers, no doubt, was a part of the Logan camp. Myers always claimed that he was one of the party firing on the boat load of Indians who crossed the river to investigate the murder of Logan's people.

The Myers estate possessed a very venerable long rifle which did much execution in the hands of its owner. Michael Myers was a sharp-shooter, the Myers rifle is six feet in length, and during his life-time he called it "*Limber Jennie*". (f)

**Note:** Some of the above material would be listed now as legend.

### **REFERENCES:**

- (a) *DAR Patriot Index Centennial Edition*, Part II, page 2118.
- (b) Mrs. Orville Dailey, *The Official Roster of Soldier of the American Revolution Buried in the State of Ohio*, Roster II, (State Society of the DAR. of Ohio, 1938), page 261.
- (c) William Egle, *Archives of Pennsylvania*, Third Series, Volume XXIII, (Harrisburg. PA: 1897), page 711.
- (d) Mary D. Sinclair, *Pioneer Days*, pages 13, 14, 30, 44.
- (e) Mrs. Dohrman J. Sinclair, *Pioneer Collection of Jefferson County, Ohio*, page 12.
- (f) William Hunter, *The Pathfinders of Jefferson County, Ohio*, pages 158, 217-226.
- (g) Leila S. Francy, "Abstracts of Wills of Jefferson County, Ohio, Will Book 4," pages 646-648.