

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Person: Jane G. Dugger
General Robert H. Hatton UDC Chapter 329
Date: June 4, 2017, 2017
Re: General Robert H. Hatton Camp #723 Conducts Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony

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The General Robert H. Hatton Camp #723, Sons of Confederate Veterans, conducted a Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony on June 3, 2017 at Cedar Grove Cemetery. Commander Barry Forkum welcomed the attendees and Chaplain Tom Wood gave the Invocation.

The keynote address was delivered by Randy Lucas, Commander, McLemore Brigade, Tennessee Division, SCV. Mr. Lucas focused on the reasons why the Southern soldiers fought—to resist the tyranny of an oppressive central government and to protect their homes and families from an invading army. He stated that descendants of these valiant men must not allow them to be used as scapegoats for the evil of slavery.

Jane Granstaff Dugger, President of the General Robert Hatton Chapter #329, United Daughters of the Confederacy, brought greetings. Mrs. Dugger pointed out that to attack Confederate symbols is to assault American symbols. Mrs. Dugger quoted from an article by Jack Kerwick entitled “Anti-Confederacy or Anti-Western,” in which he states that the campaign against Southern culture is ultimately an attack against Western Civilization.

Wreaths were placed by the General Robert H. Hatton Camp #723 and the General Robert Hatton Chapter #329. A military salute was given by Porter’s Battery with muskets and cannons. Taps was performed by Jeff Ford and Martin Frost, 1st Lt. Commander of the General Robert H. Hatton Camp #723, closed the event with a Benediction.

The printed program contained the last words written by General Hatton to his wife. “Cannot a soldier’s spirit ascend unto God? It may, if he falls even on the field of strife, provided he is pure in heart; feels, that in bearing arms he is fighting for the right, for justice—not for ambition, for what believes to be wrong. With a clear conscience, I can lead my men to the conflict. If I fall, I shall feel that my life has been given to my country. My spirit, I commend to God who gave it.”



Photo (Left): Randy Lucas, Commander, McLemore Brigade, TN Division, SCV, delivers an address focusing on the heroism and self-sacrifice of the Confederate soldier.

Photo (Right) Members of the General Robert Hatton Chapter 329 (Seated L to R) Jane Dugger, Ruth Cato, Betty Wright, prospective member Ada Midgett. (Standing L to R) Jean Ayers, Mary Scott, Pamela Annette Dies, Teresa Deathridge, Jackie Underwood.