

**John Shelton Patriot of Dover Delaware**

John Shelton migrated from his native country of England to Delaware. He volunteered for the 1<sup>st</sup> Delaware Regiment to fight for American independence against his former land. He spent the rest of this life in the Dover Delaware area.

John Shelton was born in North London, England; he was baptized April 29, 1750.<sup>1</sup> He volunteered for the first Delaware Regiment in January 1, 1777 for the duration of the war.<sup>2</sup>

John's wife was named Elizabeth. The children of John and Elizabeth Shelton are listed in the table below:

<b>Children of John and Elizabeth Shelton of Dover Delaware</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Birth</b>	<b>Marriage</b>	<b>Death &amp; Burial</b>
Ann Shelton	c. 1780	Thomas Jones	unknown
Joseph Shelton	unknown	Jane Crowley Dec 11, 1873	Oct 20 1882 Clayton DE
John Shelton	unknown	Elizabeth Gafford Feb 11 1833	unknown
George Shelton	c. 1797	Ann Taylor Apr 17, 1822 Elizabeth Salmons 14 Sept 1857	1879
Daniel Shelton	unknown	Martha Parnel May 29 1826	unknown
Source: Delaware, Marriage Records, Marriage bond of John Shelton and Elizabeth Gafford, George Shelton and John Shelton posted \$200 for bond, February 11, 1833, Public Archives Commission, Delaware Public Archives;			

<sup>1</sup> London, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1538 – 1812, christening of John Shelton, April 29, 1750, All Hallows, Tottenham, Middlesex, father Thomas Shelton, mother Sarah Shelton, London Metropolitan Archives; London, England; London Church of England Parish Registers; Reference Number: DRO/015/A/01/004, digital image 23 of 157, Ancestry.com.

<sup>2</sup> U.S., Revolutionary War Service Records, John Shelton, Hall's Regiment, Delaware, page 2, enlistment January 1, 1777, NARA publication M881, NARA Catalog ID 570910, Record Group 93, National Archives, Washington, 5 D.C., 5 digital images, Fold3.com.

Dover, Delaware; Marriage Records, 1744-1912; Record Group: RG1325.003.004, records for February 1833, digital image 28 of 87, Ancestry.com.

Delaware, Marriage Records, marriage bond of Thomas Jones and Ann Shelton, February 4, 1804, Public Archives Commission, Delaware Public Archives; Dover, Delaware; Marriage Records, 1744-1912; Record Group: RG1325.003.004, records for February 1804, digital image 10 of 19, Ancestry.com.

Delaware, Marriage Records, marriage of Joseph Shelton and Jane Crowley, December 11, 1873, Kent County DE, Public Archives Commission, Delaware Public Archives; Dover, Delaware; Marriage Records, 1744-1912; Record Group: RG1325.003.004, marriage records for December 1873, digital image 205 of 223, Ancestry.com.

Delaware, Marriage Records, marriage record of Daniel Shelton and Martha Parnel, May 29, 1826, Public Archives Commission, Delaware Public Archives; Dover, Delaware; Marriage Records, 1744-1912; Record Group: RG1325.003.004.

According to his official compiled service record, John Shelton served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Delaware Regiment in the Continental beginning on January 1, 1777. There are records of him serving in August and November of 1777. There is also a record of him receiving invalid pension payments in the period 1784 to 1787.<sup>3</sup>

John Shelton's declaration in his pension file gives a more detailed and differing account of his service. In a declaration dated June 16, 1818, he states that he volunteered for the 1<sup>st</sup> Delaware regiment in the spring of 1776 for a period of one year and that he served in the Company of Captain Nathan Adams. He further states that he was severely wounded in the upper arm and chest by cannon fire in the Battle of Long Island, and that he was discharged in Philadelphia.<sup>4</sup> An obituary for John Shelton published January 31 1834 provides support for Shelton's claim that he was wounded in battle, as does the above cited invalid pension voucher.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> U.S., Revolutionary War Service Records, John Shelton, Hall's Regiment, Delaware, page 2, enlistment January 1, 1777, NARA publication M881, NARA Catalog ID 570910, Record Group 93, National Archives, Washington, 5 D.C., 5 digital images, Fold3.com.

<sup>4</sup> U.S., Revolutionary War Pensions, pension number S36,300, veteran John Shelton, Service Delaware, declaration dated June 16, 1818, image 4 of the file, NARA publication M804, NARA catalog ID 30022, Record Group 15, Fold3.com.

<sup>5</sup> Delaware Gazette and American Watchman, Wilmington, DE, Friday January 31, 1834, page 4, obituary of John Shelton.

John Shelton died January 21, 1834.<sup>6</sup> No record has been found of his burial. John Shelton's wife Elizabeth died prior to 1830.<sup>7</sup> No record of her burial has been found.

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<sup>6</sup> U.S., Final Payments Vouchers Index for Military Pensions, pensioner John Shelton, Delaware, died January 21, 1834, National Archives, NARA catalog ID 2733385, Record Group 217.

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Census, Delaware, Kent, Dover, household of John Shelton, 1 male 5-9, one male 80 -90, one female 15-19, NARA publication Series: M19; Roll: 12; Page: 269; Family History Library Film: 0006414.