

## **Douglas H. Nelson, Seattle Chapter**

**Patriot's name:** Benjamin Gilford

**Patriot's State:** Massachusetts

### **Patriot's Military Service:**

Benjamin Gilford's military service record is recorded in the Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution, Volume 6, Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers, 1899, page 434.

At the age of 45 on April 19, 1775 and with nine children at home, the oldest being 19 years old and the youngest being two years of age, he answered the call of Captain Asa Prince's Company of Minute-Men, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775. As a Private, he marched with this Captain for two days of service. He enlisted on May 17, 1775.

Following the alarm call, he joined with Captain Eleazer Lindsey's Company and took the oath in Middlesex Co. on July 6, 1775, as required by Congress of the Massachusetts army.

He was made Sergeant of Captain Eleazer Lindsey's Company in Col. Samuel Gerrish's regiment where there is a signed receipt for advance pay signed by him at Maiden on Augusts, 1775.

He appears on the muster roll of Captain Eleazer Lindsey's Company, Col. Woodbridge's regiment dated August 1, 1775. The company returned in October 1775. This service was for two months and 14 days. In the same Company and regiment is an order for a bounty coat or its equivalent in money dated Maiden, December 22, 1775.

His family was of the Church of England faith that left Boston, Massachusetts for Maryland on account of religious reasons and finally moved back to the Casco Bay Colony, who were largely of that faith. They were driven back to Salem, Essex Co., Massachusetts on account of the French Indian War of 1754 to 1763 and located in Salem Village later called Danvers. During these travels, Benjamin Gilford (sometimes spelled Guilford) was born in 1730 in Danvers, Essex Co., Massachusetts. He was the son of William Guilford and Mary Benjamin of Salem Village, Essex Co., Massachusetts. He married Lydia Sarah Goodale of Salem, Essex Co., Massachusetts on March 17, 1755 and they had ten children, all born in Danvers. Benjamin Gilford died in Danvers, Essex Co., Massachusetts on June 30, 1796 at the age of 66.