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169 years later, a sacrifice honored

By Melinda Donnelly / Special to The Citizen

SHERWOOD - Edward Robinson began as a drummer boy in the Revolutionary War, then settled in Scipio in the early 180 Little is known about his life, yet he is immortalized with a monument in the Sherwood/Phelps Cemetery on Route 34B.

The marker was dedicated on Saturday during a 30-minute ceremony attended by seven of his descendants - some from as as Michigan - and representatives from a local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which organized the ceremony.

"It is good that we pause today and reflect upon the bravery of Edward Robinson and his generation," said Joan Minde Wel Owasco Chapter of the DAR. "Of course, the descendants of Edward Robinson recall their ancestor and his service to his c But there is also a public need to remember such men and their deeds."

Robinson was one of 729 Revolutionary War soldiers who settled in Cayuga County after the war, some on tracts of land g them by the government, said Sheila Tucker, Cayuga County historian.

Robinson, who fought in the 7th Massachusetts Regiment, was mostly likely at Yorktown, and perhaps at Valley Forge, Tu said.

"The men were without boots," she said. "As they walked with rags on their feet, they left tracks of blood in the snow."

Robinson eventually attained the rank of private. In Cayuga County, he was a blacksmith. He was born in June of 1763 and November 1836.

"A lot of what we know about him has been lost to history," said Bonnie Bergeron, Robinson's great-great-great granddaug can assume that Edward Robinson was a hard-working person. I can assume he was stubborn, because my dad is. I can assu was honest."

Robinson, born in Connecticut, settled in lots 45 and 46 in the town of Scipio in about 1800 and lived there until his death. 12 children.

"The Robinson story is really a story of America," Bergeron said.

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