

# Deborah Sampson Revolutionary War Heroine



# An Extraordinary Woman



- Born December 17, 1760
- Died April 29, 1827
- Served in the Continental Army in the American Revolutionary War
- Disguised herself as a man

# A Grandmother's Influence

Deborah's grandmother, Bathsheba Bradford often told Deborah stories about Joan of Arc who led the French Army to victory over the British



# Private Sampson Joins the Army



- May 20, 1782 at the age of 21, she enlisted under the name Robert Shurtleff (the name of her younger brother who had died at age 8)
- Entered Captain George Webb's company

# A War Hero

- Deborah was involved in numerous battles and was wounded no less three separate times.
- She cared for her own wounds to avoid a doctor noticing her gender
- Eventually, she was wounded so badly she was sent to a doctor who noticed her gender but said nothing.
- She was sent on a mission to carry a letter to George Washington who did not reveal her true identity, but instead discharged her from the army



# Other notable facts



- She eventually married Benjamin Gannett and lived to the age of 68 in Massachusetts
- Her family was awarded a military pension for her service and wounds in battle
- The state of Massachusetts named her their official “heroine” in 1983.