99

Casimir Pulaski 1745 - 1779

Ready to explore? Call us today for top trip ideas you'll love!

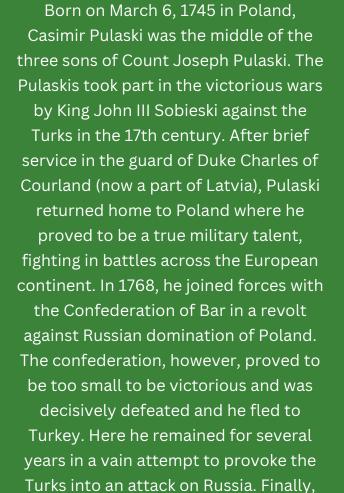
VisitPulaskiCounty.org



573-336-6355



Pulaski County Tourism Bureau 137 St. Robert Blvd. St. Robert. Mo 65584



penniless and destitute, he left for Paris to seek other employment.



Discover The History Of Pulaski County

On September 15, 1777, the American congress promoted Pulaski to the rank of Brigadier General in command of cavalry and became known as the "Father of the American Cavalry." During the winter of 1777, he and his men served at Trenton, at Flemington, and at Valley Forge, where Pulaski shared responsibility with General Anthony Wayne for the provisioning of the starving Americans.

In May, 1778, Pulaski began to form an independent cavalry unit that would be known as the Pulaski Legion.

Comprised of Americans, German,
Frenchmen, Irishmen, and Poles, the
legion would see immediate action in
October along the New Jersey coast. The
Pulaski legion would later guard the
northern border of Pennsylvania before
heading south.

In the spring of 1775, as the American Revolution was beginning, the American commissioners to France gave Pulaski money to make the voyage to Boston. He arrived there armed with a letter of introduction to General George Washington. Shortly after a meeting with Washington in August of that same year, Pulaski became a volunteer member of the general's staff. Distinguishing himself at the Battle of the Brandywine in September,

he was consequently given command of a newly created cavalry troop in Washington's army. Pulaski would serve next to George Washington who appreciated Pulaski's vast military experience and who saved Washington's life. He became known as the "Father of the American Cavalry."

As a result, later that same month the Continental Congress, on the advice of Washington, authorized Pulaski to raise an independent cavalry corp in the Baltimore, Maryland area. Anxious for an active command, he was sent to Egg Harbor, N.J., to protect supplies there but was badly mauled by a surprise British attack on Oct. 15, 1778

In May 1779, the Pulaski Legion helped defend Charleston, South Carolina against the British. The following months the legion engaged in reconnaissance and guerrilla warfare in South Carolina.

In the attack on October 9, 1779, American and French forces fell short of retaking the city of Savannah. Pulaski was also mortally wounded by grapeshot and would die two days later aboard the American ship Wasp on route to Charleston. Pulaski was then reported to have been buried at sea near the place where the Savannah River flows into the Atlantic.



On November 7, 2009 President Barack Obama signed a joint resolution of the House and the Senate that made Pulaski an honorary citizen. Pulaski is one of only seven people to be awarded honorary United States citizenship. Americans have honored him throughout the last two centuries.

A number of counties, cities, and streets are named for him. This county was organized in 1833 and named for Casimir Pulaski. Numerous cities, towns, parks, roadways, bridges, schools, and even a Masonic Lodge in Chicago are named after Pulaski in recognition of his devotion to the cause of freedom. Monuments and statues in Georgia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Ohio, Connecticut, New York, Maryland, Rhode Island, Michigan, and Washington D.C. pay tribute to him. In addition to Pulaski County, Missouri he is also namesake to Pulaski County in Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Virginia.