

# *AARON KICHLINE*

*Civil War Veteran  
Gravestone Dedication &  
Celebration*

*May 12, 2018*



*St James (Straw) Lutheran Cemetery  
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865*

*Aaron Kichline 1837-1921*

*Co C 31<sup>st</sup> NJ Volunteers*

*Welcome-*

*It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to this Gravestone Dedication & Celebration for Aaron Kichline. For almost 100 years he has been buried here with no acknowledgement. Today we honor Private Aaron Kichline who served God and His Country. As we look around the cemetery we see white balloons to honor his fellow civil war comrades, many of whom were his friend.*

*Amanda Shepherd*

*Civil War people will be led by the color guard of the American Legion Bernandine May Post #457 to the dedication site. Following them will be any colors of the units involved, then officers, firing regiments followed by civilians.*

*Civilian Life of Arron Kichline*

*Presented by Pastor Bernard Kelly &  
Deacon Karen Kelly*

*Military Service of Arron Kichline*

*Presented by Jason Dilts*

*Introduction of direct decedents.*

*At this time I would ask all of Arron  
Kichline Direct Decedents to stand to be  
acknowledged. Please be seated.*

*Amanda Shephard*

*Headstone Dedication Service*

*Jason Dilts, Pastor Kelly and General  
Grant*

*Opening Remarks-*

*General Ulysses S. Grant*

*Laying of the Evergreen Wreath-*

*Symbolizing Undying Love-by Clark Kichline  
Direct Decendant from Aaron through  
Harry his son*

*Laying a Rose*

*Symbolizing Purity-Walter Kichline Direct  
Decendent of Arron through Harry  
his son.*

*Laying a Grapevine Wreath*

*Symbolizing -Affection-by Preston A  
Kichline Direct Decendent of Arron  
through Anna his daughter.*

*Laying of American Flag-*

*Symbolizing -America- by Mrs. Mary Ann  
(McPeek ) Bacskai direct decendent from  
Aaron through Alice his daughter.*

*Poem by Pastor Bernard Kelly*

*Three volleys by the firing squad.*

*Taps by Richard Pawling*

*Final Words by Jason Dilts & Pastor Kelly*

*Congressman Leonard Lance*

*Closing Remarks*

*-Amanda Shephard*

*At the luncheon there will be special music from the civil war era provided by Richard Pawling. Also there will be a display of Civil War Items by Jason Dilts.*

## **Special Thank you to:**

**Jason Dilts**-for all his hard work planning and executing this wonderful program.

**Richard Pawling**-for his traditional music.

**All the Civil War Reenactors**

**Pastor & Deacon Karen Kelly**

**Amanda Shepherd**- Plaques for the rest of Aaron's family. For all her time and talents she brought to the program

**John O'Brian** Headstone Restoration

**Genealogy Research**

**Carol & David Hoff**

**Kathleen & Bernie Reich**

**Charlotte & Dave Morris**

**Scott & Donna Reichard**-Balloons and the Port a Potty

**To Everyone who donated food, time and talents to help make this program a success.**

Straw Cemetery goes back to 1760's or before. Our oldest readable stone is 1771. Please enjoy a leisurely walk through the graveyard. The oldest sections are near the highway, but please be very careful. Do not lean against, touch or back into these thin ancient stones that are easily broken. There are 29 Revolutionary Patriots buried here.

The single white balloons mark the grave sites of the 18 other Civil War Veterans buried at Straw. Many were Aaron's friends, only two out lived Aaron.

St. James (Straw) Lutheran Church and St. James (Straw) Lutheran Cemetery were entered on the **State and National Register of Historic Places** in 2016.

If you would like to donate to our cemetery historic preservation efforts, make checks payable to: **Straw Cemetery Historical Preservation.**

All contributions will be greatly appreciated and will be used exclusively for Straw Cemetery Historic Preservation. See our web site **[strawcemetery.org](http://strawcemetery.org)**, to find out what we do.

If you would like to join our effort as a volunteer, call the Church Office at 908-859-2864.