On Sunday October 1, 2017, the Virginia Society of The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America participated in a joint Grave Marking Ceremony hosted by the James Monroe and the Richard Henry Lee Chapters of the Sons of The American Revolution along with The War of 1812 Society in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The event was held at the beautifully maintained (privately owned) Payne Family Cemetery where their English immigrant—Founder John Payne, is buried along with several of his descendants. The cemetery is located at Ingleside Plantation in Westmoreland County, Virginia.

Additional organizations participated by providing their flags and wreaths namely, the Cobbs Hall Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, two other Virginia SAR Chapters: the Culpepper Minutemen and the Fairfax Resolve, the Northern Neck Historical Society, and the James Monroe Chapter of the Daughters of the War of 1812.

In attendance also, was a very special guest whose ancestors are buried in this cemetery. This guest was James Buckner “Buck” Payne and his wife Susan (nee Braner) Payne. They currently reside in Fairfax County, VA however both have deep roots in the Northern Neck area of Virginia. Buck describes himself as an 11th generation Payne in America. He currently teaches history and individual math to children with assorted disabilities.

The Payne family cemetery contains the marked grave site remains, at a minimum, of 28 Payne family members to include their Founder (John Payne--1615-1690), American Revolutionary War Patriots Daniel Payne (1728-1796) and John Payne (1753-1824), along with a veteran of the War of 1812--John Payne.

The Virginia Society Governor who is also the Deputy Secretary General OFPA, J. Shane Newcombe, provided greetings to the attendees at the ceremony and additionally offered a historical narrative of the Founder John Payne. A summary of his remarks follows:
“...[these] joint efforts in marking the graves here today [is] to bring awareness to all who visit or research this area that the sacrifices of blood, sweat, and tears from those buried herein are not in vain or forgotten. To that end, it is our history that strengthens our bond of unity in liberty and the sacred rights granted by our Heavenly Creator. As Governor of the Virginia Society and Deputy Secretary General of the National Order, I thank you for allowing us to partake in this commemorative ceremony to lay a wreath [and place a Virginia Society OFPA gravesite memorial stone] in memory and to honor the brave Founders, Colonists, and Patriots who forwent so much in their quest for religious freedom and the rights of man.

John Payne was born in England in 1615 and married Margaret Malle. From Court documents, we know he arrived in the Colony of Virginia before 1652. He died in 1690 in Rappahannock County and was buried at “Red House aka Cedar Hill” now in Westmoreland County. His grave is not marked, but a bronze tabled indicates the approximate location.

John Payne was a ship owner, as evidenced by the fact that in 1653 the Lancaster County Court paid him for provisioning and transporting Burgesses from the area to Jamestowne. Throughout this period, he travelled back and forth to England upon moving and ultimately occupying his plantation on Peptick Creek, in what is now the area of Leedstown, which was officially founded in 1742.

The old family graveyard where John Payne, our Founder is buried is still in use. About 28 of his family members are buried here. In 1935, descendants erected a wall, with a plaque, around the existing stones and a dedication was held.

Today we gather together to commemorate John Payne and properly solidify his presence as a Founder in the Colony of Virginia and ultimately the nation of the United States.”

The Virginia Society of The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America provided the following activities specifically for this joint ceremony:

- Posting of the Colors of The OFPA-- VA Society Governor J. Shane Newcombe
- Virginia Society Governor J. Shane Newcombe provided greetings to the attendees and offered a historical narrative of the Founder John Payne
- A Virginia Society OFPA grave marker stone was installed honoring the grave site of Founder John Payne. The grave marker was unveiled by associate Mike Weyler
- The Virginia Society OFPA wreath was presented by Secretary Doug Graves and,
• The General Order OFPA wreath was presented by VA Society Governor acting in his role as the Deputy Secretary General of the OFPA, namely, J. Shane Newcombe

The Founder John Payne Family burying ground/cemetery located at Ingleside Plantation-Westmoreland County, Virginia
At attention are the following individuals (l-r) Charles Belfield President of the James Monroe SAR Chapter, 2nd and 3rd unknown, VA OFPA Governor J. Shane Newcombe (in front of the OFPA flag), Mike Lyman (former VA Society OFPA Governor), VA Society OFPA Associate Mike Weyler, and the last person is unknown.

At the podium is Don Smith, President of the Richard Henry Lee SAR Chapter
Governor J. Shane Newcombe (at the podium) is offering greetings and his historical narrative regarding the Founder John Payne. On the far left (in the suit) is Don Smith, President of the Richard Henry Lee SAR Chapter and to the right in uniform is Charles Belfield, President of the James Monroe SAR Chapter
Bronze plague installed in 1935 by the descendants of the *Founder* John Payne
Associate Mike Weyler unveiling the Virginia Society OFPA stone grave marker located below the bronze plaque--in honor of the *Founder, John Payne*
The 1935 bronze plaque erected by family members and with the installed Virginia Society OFPA Grave Marker Stone in place
VA Society OFPA Governor J. Shane Newcombe in his role as Deputy Secretary General provides a wreath from the General Order-OFPA
Secretary Doug Graves offered the Virginia Society OFPA wreath
Members of the James Monroe Sons of The American Revolution honor guard about to provide a *Three Volley Musket Salute* prior to the *Bugle Taps*.
Members in attendance from the Virginia Society of The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America (l-r) VA Governor J. Shane Newcombe, Secretary Doug Graves, Historian and Newsletter publisher Jerry Hubbard, Associate Mike Weyler, and former VA Society OFPA Governor, Mike Lyman
Special guest in attendance was James Buckner “Buck” Payne. Buck describes himself as an 11th generation Payne in America (lineage from the Founder, John Payne).

Respectfully submitted
Douglas M. Graves
Secretary Virginia Society OFPA