



Dr. Wayne L. Eder DC
Department Commander
Department of California & the Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Proudly Serving
California, Nevada, Hawaii, the Pacific Territories & Possessions

DEPARTMENT ORDER #3

SERIES 2026/2027

28 June 2026

Passing of Brother Donald L. Hotchkiss, Jr. PCC

April 8, 1954 - June 28, 2026 (72 years)

By the authority vested in me as Commander of the Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, in accordance with the Department Bylaws, National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: It is with deep regret and a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Brother Donald L. Hotchkiss Jr., PCC of both the Senator Edward Dickinson Baker Camp 31 of Henderson, NV , and the former William B. Keith Camp 12 of Las Vegas, NV passed away this date with his family present in Las Vegas, NV. He served as a Corporal, with Battery A, 3rd US Artillery in the 6th Military District Sons of Veterans Reserve.

Section 2: Brother Hotchkiss was a United States Army Veteran, where he held the rank of Captain in the Corps of Engineers. His engineering background led him to a career as a Civil Engineer at the Nevada Test Site.

Section 3: Brother Hotchkiss was a well known American Civil War historian in Nevada and California. He was instrumental in the formation of both Camp 12 and later Camp 31 and served as Camp Commander for both camps. Additionally, he served on the Board of Directors for the Old Mormon Fort in Las Vegas, and the Las Vegas Civil War Roundtable. Brother Hotchkiss was a member of both the Sons of the American Revolution Signers Chapter, and the Sons of Confederate Veterans. He is best known for his fundraising efforts with all of these organizations, with the administration of the Annual Fireworks Sales in the Las Vegas area which netted sizable income for these organizations.

Section 4: Brother Hotchkiss served as a Department Encampment Committee Member in 2006 and 2024, where he assisted in bringing the Department Encampment to Southern Nevada. He provided information and support to the Department regarding fundraising activities, and

participated in Department ceremonies and activities in Nevada, California, and Arizona. He and his wife Carol often hosted Camp 31 meetings at their home in Las Vegas. In 2024 he was nominated and received the *President Abraham Lincoln Exemplary Service Award* by the Department of California and the Pacific.

Section 5: Brother Hotchkiss was an avid American Civil War reenactor, serving with 8th Illinois Cavalry Company C, Frontier Army of the West, in Southern California, where he participated in numerous Civil War and Mexican-American War reenactments and ceremonies throughout the Western United States.

Section 6: Brother Hotchkiss claims his membership to the SUVCW through his paternal GG Grandfather Private Richard Edgar Waller of Company B, 112 NY Vol. Infantry Regiment. His maternal GG grandfather Charles Fowler Brown served in the 9th NY Cavalry.

Section 7: The Department of California and the Pacific extends its condolences to the entire Hotchkiss family, including his wife Carol Hotchkiss, his brother Gary, son Nate, and nephews Ted, and Jon who are all also members of Camp 31,. Condolence cards may be sent to Carol Hotchkiss, 7331 Ellington Park St., Las Vegas, NV 89166. Department members are encouraged to show their respect and condolences due to Brother Hotchkiss activities within his camps and our department.

Section 8: Camp 31's Charter is to be draped in black for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this order.

Section 9: All Camp 31 Brothers are respectfully directed to attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badge (Pursuant to C&R Article III, Section 9) for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this order.

This Department Order is proclaimed on the 28th day of June in the year of our Lord, two thousand-twenty six.

By Order of: *Wayne L. Eder*

Dr. Wayne L. Eder PCC, Department Commander
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



Attest: ***Randy Dhindsa***

Randy Dhindsa, Secretary-Treasurer
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



Donald L. Hotchkiss, Jr.