

Hiram Kilgore

Alleghany Chapter NSDAR post <https://www.alleghanydar.org/charles-kilgore/> states that Hiram Kilgore was killed in the battle of Kings Mountain.

Draper papers 3DD232 and 3DD58a are Samuel Newell letters. In his 04Aug1823 letter to Governor David Campbell, Newell named all of the Virginians killed at Kings Mountain. He named most of the wounded and apologized for forgetting some. Charles Kilgore was the only Kilgore mentioned. Newell was a magistrate of the 15Apr1783 Washington County VA court session which granted support to war casualties.

H.M. Addington spoke of the Kilgore family at Copper Creek Church. He named Charles, but not Hiram as a Kings Mountain participant. Hiram killed would have drawn more attention than Charles wounded, but did not receive mention in the speech.

Bobby Moss once told me that he wished he could get back all his books and replace them “with what I know now.” In his *Patriots of Kings Mountain*. Moss names four Kilgore brothers in his entry for Charles Kilgore as also being in the battle. Moss did not, however, make entries for them. It is inconceivable that Moss would have neglected to make an entry for a patriot fatality.

All the Virginians killed according to Col William Campbell’s battle report from Old Salem NC two weeks after the battle are known and shown on the battlefield monuments. Hiram Kilgore is not among them.

In the H M Addington speech at Copper Creek Church, Hugh injected another myth about Charles Kilgore’s wife and daughter. “went by themselves to the scene of the battlefield and brought Charles Kilgore home”. First, Dysart left none of his patriots behind. Second, the Virginians needing medical care remained in Burke County a week after the battle. Third, it was two or three weeks after the battle when the men returned to Abingdon. Fourth, without a returning soldier to guide them, it would have been impossible for the Kilgore ladies to find Kings Mountain. Fifth, it would have been a month before Kilgore’s wife and daughter arrived to get a wounded man who remained in the wild? Sixth, Col Campbell assigned two men to escort each of the wounded who needed help.

To give credence to Addington’s account, one must believe that

- three Kilgore men abandoned their wounded brother
- the wounded Charles Kilgore stayed in place at Kings Mountain when the other Virginians left
- two Kilgore women knew where to find Charles a month later to bring him back across the mountains.

Hugh Addington included in his book *Charles Kilgore of King’s Mountain* (Nicklesville VA 1938), a statement from Judge G W Addington from 1911. Judge Addington said that he read an old history of Kings Mountain which said that Hiram Kilgore was killed and Robert Kilgore was seriously wounded, but he did not name the book or its author. Lyman Draper’s book was the prominent Kings Mountain history in circulation. It named Charles Kilgore, but neither Hiram nor Robert.

In May 1797, Colonel Dysart sold 1780 acres on both sides of Copper and Valley Creeks to Charles Kilgore of Russell County. McConnell VA N 36.73668 W 82.46922

Federal pension file W7994 for Charles Kilgore born 1764 or 65 in Orange County NC shows a teen age patriot serving in the area of Cumberland Gap. Bobby Moss indicates that this was the first son of the Charles Kilgore who was wounded at Kings Mountain.

FAW

Semper Fi