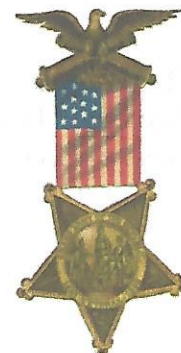




**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**  
**OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**



NATHAN L. SMITH, DC, PCC

+ HEADQUARTERS +  
2620 S. DECKER RD MARLETTE, MICHIGAN 48453

**SPECIAL MESSAGE NO.:** 02  
**SERIES:** 2022-2023

**DATE:** 17 December 2022

**RE: SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO DONALD W. SHAW, PCinC, PDC**

AS MANY KNOW, Brother Donald W. Shaw went to be with the lord on December 13, 2022. As I have had time to reflect upon his passing over the past few days, I cannot help but think about the time I had spent with him traveling to various locations such as Gettysburg, Springfield, and various Camp or MOLLUS Events, a reflection I am sure many can share. Brother Shaw, as I know him, was a humble, soft-spoken man of "short stature," as I had heard him reference a time or two before, who had a tremendously big heart and an endless love for history and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. I will miss Brother Shaw's warm smile, unique wit, sound advice, and many years of experience within our great organization. Brother Shaw, through his humble nature, would tell us not to mourn him, but If you were fortunate enough to know him, please take a moment to reflect on your memories of Brother Shaw and take comfort in knowing that he is now watching us from above.

**Poem of Life**

Author Unknown

Life is but a stopping place,  
A pause in what's to be,  
A resting place among the road, To sweet eternity.

We all have different journeys,  
Different paths along the way,  
We all were meant to learn some things,  
But never meant to stay...

Our destination is a place,  
Far greater than we know.  
For some, the journey's quicker,  
For some, the journey's slow.

And when the journey finally ends,  
We'll claim a great reward,  
And find an everlasting peace,  
Together with the Lord.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Nathan L. Smith, PCC  
Commander, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

Organized 1881 – heir to and representing the Grand Army of the Republic