

# Private William Kenly

Birth: March 17, 1741 Baltimore Co, MD

Death: November 20, 1806 Philadelphia, Philadelphia CO, PA

From humble means, William Kenly rose to wealth, land ownership and power in Pennsylvania. During the Revolutionary War, he served as paymaster for the Southeastern PA area militia troops, and secured food and alcohol for the troops as Assistant Commissary.

William Kenly also was involved in several court cases that left a lasting legacy impacting Pennsylvanians today: that one must secure a divorce no matter how long a spouse has been absent before remarrying, that an executor of an estate who is also an heir is legally entitled to testify in court regarding actions he undertook as executor even if those actions were to his eventual benefit as an heir, and that a bond pledged to the courts to guarantee one's appearance in court could only be seized if that person failed to return.