



## **Kentucky's War of 1812: Gov. George Madison**

*The Kentucky Historical Society's historical marker 1896 in Franklin County commemorates Gov. George Madison, an 1812 veteran who only held office for a few weeks.*

Born in Virginia in 1763, Madison was second cousin to U.S. President James Madison. After serving in the militia during the Revolutionary War, he moved to Kentucky and was later wounded twice in 1791 while fighting Native Americans.

During the War of 1812, he was second major in the 1st Kentucky Rifle Regiment. Captured at the Battle of River Raisin in January 1813, he was released in 1814.

Madison was one of many officers who used their military service to propel them into political office. He served as Kentucky's auditor of public accounts and, despite poor health, ran and won the governor's race in 1816. Too sick to travel to Frankfort, he took the oath of office in Bourbon County. He died on Oct. 14, 1816.