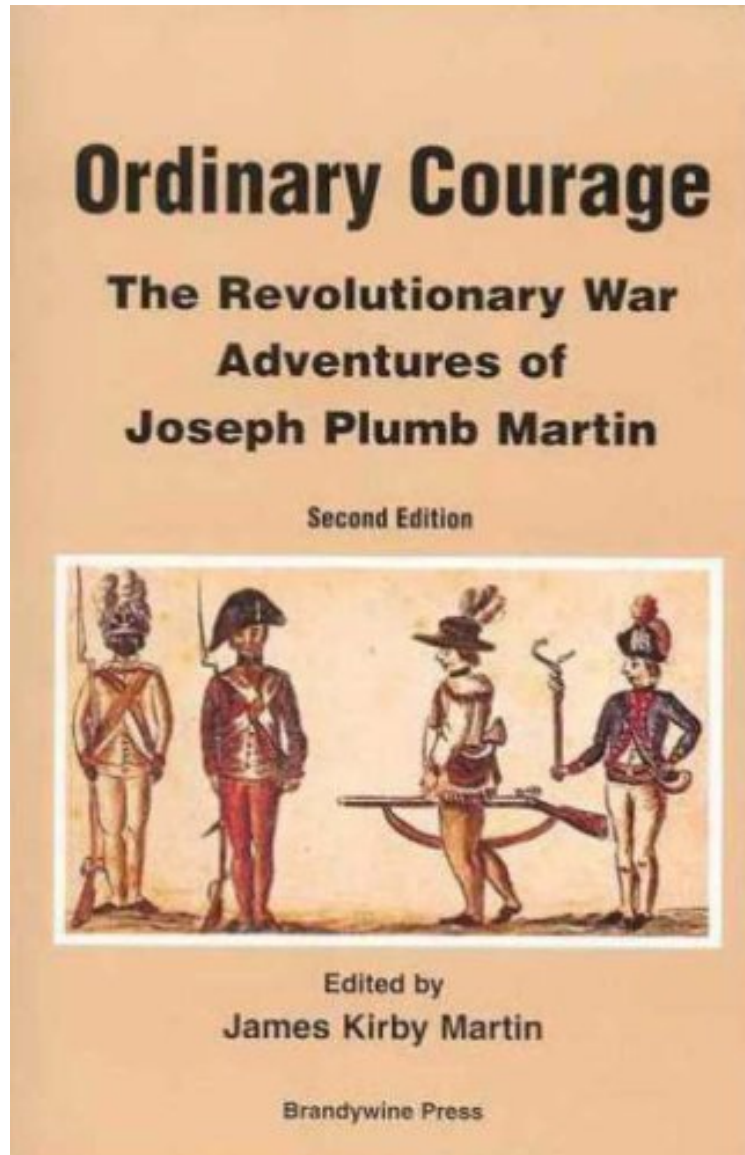


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Ordinary Courage: The Revolutionary War Adventures of Private Joseph Plumb Martin

James K. Martin

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James K. Martin : Ordinary Courage: The Revolutionary War Adventures of Private Joseph Plumb Martin before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ordinary Courage: The Revolutionary War Adventures of Private Joseph Plumb Martin:

This classic memoir of the American Revolution puts into question long-cherished national myths about a committed populace struggling for liberty. Martin's story is told from the perspective of patriots who endured the hardships of long-term service in Washington's army. First published over 175 years ago, this book, with its humor, frankness, and pathos, is thought-provoking firsthand reading for today's college students.

Comments offered in response to an H-Net survey about the best books to use in courses treating the American Revolution: "I especially like James Kirby Martin, editor, *Ordinary Courage: The Life of Joseph Plumb Martin*. Martin wrote the best account of the Revolutionary War by any common soldier. His narrative is beautifully written with excellent accounts of the day-to-day hardships of the war along with descriptions of several major battles including Yorktown. James Kirby Martin's admirable introduction and notes are very useful in providing information, where needed, to flesh out the account." J. William T. Youngs, Eastern Washington University "Brandywine Press publishes Joseph Plumb Martin's *Diary* as edited by James Kirby Martin. Students not only love this short and colorful memoir, but it provides material for discussion on everything from social mores to issues surrounding history and memory." Gretchen Adams, University of New Hampshire

From the Back Cover This classic memoir of the American Revolution puts into question long-cherished national myths about a committed populace struggling for liberty. Martin's story is told from the perspective of patriots who endured the hardships of long-term service in Washington's army. First published over 175 years ago, this book, with its humor, frankness, and pathos, is thought-provoking firsthand reading for today's college students.

About the Author James Kirby Martin is Distinguished University Professor at the University of Houston. Martin is a nationally recognized scholar of Early American history, especially the era of the American Revolution, and he is also well known for his writings on various aspects of American military and social history. Martin is the award-winning author and editor of eleven books, including *Benedict Arnold, Revolutionary Hero: An American Warrior Reconsidered* (1997), and, with M.E. Lender, *Drinking in America: A History 1620-1980* (1987). Most recently, he has completed a major revision of his co-authored book, *A Respectable Army: The Military Origins of the Republic, 1763-1789*. He has also finished (with Joseph Glatthaar) *Forgotten Allies: The Oneida Indians and the American Revolution*, to be published in 2006 by Hill Wang, and he is completing (with Marla Miller) a study of Revolutionary America for Oxford University Press.