

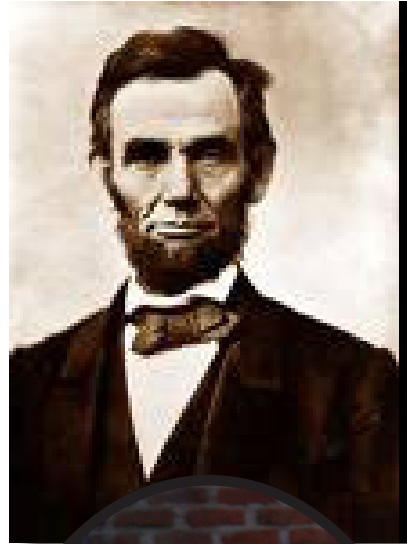


ABRAHAM LINCOLN



as Portrayed by Bob Costello

Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, was a man who rose from humble beginnings to be the Chief Executive of the nation. He was born in Kentucky, raised in Indiana, and lived in Illinois. A man who barely had a second grade education, Lincoln believed in reading and studying on his own to satisfy his ambition to be remembered in history. "As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a Master" was his basic belief of democracy. Lincoln was a man who respected the Common Man, "because the Good Lord made so many of us". The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were the documents that Lincoln believed in, and that guided him on



his journey into history. After some failures as a young man, success came to Lincoln as a politician and a lawyer.

Good fortune smiled upon him, by his being blessed with a wife who matched his ambition and who gave him four sons, two of whom, sadly, he lost.

After Lincoln was elected to the Presidency, eleven states attempted to withdraw from the Union, which cast the dark shadow of Civil War upon the nation. As a wartime leader, Lincoln rallied the nation to defend the Constitution, preserve the Union and, later, engage in a war for Freedom, ending the scourge of slavery. While Lincoln's life ended at the hands of an assassin, his legacy and the nation he loved, live on.



Bob Costello, a resident of Piscataway, N J, has been a reenactor for the past eighteen years. In the past, he served in the 2nd Rhode Island from the rank of private to Company Commander. He is currently the Chaplain of the 3rd New Jersey.

About five years ago, Bob was asked to portray Mr. Lincoln for a special event, and his portrayal evolved into a labor of love. "Being Mr. Lincoln and bringing him to the public, to give them a better understanding of this truly great person, as a man, with his accomplishments, his faults and his emotions, has been an experience that I can never forget."