



## THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE GUARD OF HONOR AT THE ROYAL TOMBS OF THE PANTHEON HISTORY

During the reign of His Majesty Vittorio Emanuele II, the first King of Italy, a group of officers founded associations of veterans of the Wars of Independence. On the death of the Sovereign, on January 9, 1878, to keep alive the devotion and gratitude to the August House of Savoy, these associations decided, on their honor, to guard the venerated mortal remains of the “Father of the Fatherland”, and to organize a Guard Service at his burial in the Pantheon in Rome.

His Majesty Umberto I approved this decision on January 18, 1878.

Unfortunately, in 1900, it became necessary to erect a second funeral monument in the Pantheon to honor the second King of Italy, who was assassinated in Monza on July 29th of that year. As a result, the statutes were changed and the Honor Guards extended their service to the two Royal Tombs of their Majesties Vittorio Emanuele II “Father of the Fatherland” and first King of Italy and Umberto I, second King of Italy.

### EVOLUTION OF THE NAMES OF THE INSTITUTE

- 1878: General Comitium of Veterans 1848-1849
- 1911: Roman Central Committee of Veterans of the Wars for Independence and the Unification of Italy
- 1925: Central Committee of Veterans of the National and Colonial Campaigns
- 1932: National Institute for the Honor Guard at the Royal tombs of the Pantheon