**Joachim Zachris Duncker**

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| **Joachim Zachris Duncker** |
| JZDunckerGrave.jpgLieutenant-Colonel JZ Duncker's Memorial Monument |
| **Born** | November 12, 1774[Ristiina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ristiina) in [Savonia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Savonia_%28historical_province%29) |
| **Died** | KIA [Battle of Hörnefors](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Battle_of_H%C3%B6rnefors&action=edit&redlink=1), July 6, 1809KIA in Hörnefors |
| **Allegiance** | [Sweden](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sweden) |
| **Service/branch** | [Swedish Army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swedish_Army) |
| **Years of service** | 178?-1809 |
| **Rank** | [Lieutenant-Colonel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lieutenant-Colonel) |
| **Unit** | Royal Savonia (Ranger/Skirmisher)? Regiment |
| **Battles/wars** | [Russo-Swedish War (1788–1790)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russo-Swedish_War_%281788%E2%80%931790%29)[Finnish War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finnish_War) |

**Joachim Zachris Duncker** (November 12, 1774 – July 6, 1809) was a [Swedish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sweden) soldier born in [Ristiina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ristiina) in [Savonia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Savonia_%28historical_province%29).

In 1789 Duncker obtained the rank of 2nd [Lieutenant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lieutenant) in the Savonia ranger regiment. He fought in the 1790 [war](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gustav_III%27s_Russian_War) against [Russia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russia) and proved his valor at the [Battle of Perttimäki](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Battle_of_Perttim%C3%A4ki&action=edit&redlink=1) 19 May. In 1804 Duncker was promoted to [Captain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Captain_%28land%29).

During the [Finnish War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finnish_War) of 1808-1809 he distinguished himself as a brave and prominent officer. When [Cronstedt's](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johan_Adam_Cronstedt) army retreated from [Mikkeli](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mikkeli) to [Iisalmi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iisalmi) and [Oulu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oulu) through Leppävirta (March 1808), Duncker commanded the army's rearguard. During the [Battle of Pulkkila](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Pulkkila) (May 2, 1808) he distinguished himself so well that [Johan August Sandels](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johan_August_Sandels) gave him the honorary assignment to bring the news of the victory to the Swedish king. Shortly after, he was promoted to Major. In June 1808 he captured a large transport of supplies to the Russians. During the [Battle of Koljonvirta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Koljonvirta) (October 27, 1808), Duncker together with [Colonel Fahlander](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Gustaf_Fahlander&action=edit&redlink=1) and [Major Malm](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Karl_Vilhelm_Malm&action=edit&redlink=1) and only 600 men helped [Sandels](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johan_August_Sandels) to utterly defeated a superior Russian force. In 1809 Duncker fought the Russians in the Swedish province of [Västerbotten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/V%C3%A4sterbotten), and was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel. During the [Battle of Hörnefors](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Battle_of_H%C3%B6rnefors&action=edit&redlink=1) (July 5, 1809) Duncker commanded the Swedish rearguard and received fatal wounds and died in the Russian encampment the day after.

Duncker was buried next to [Umeå](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ume%C3%A5) church by the Russians that gave him a full honour guard. He lies buried together with a Russian cossack chief. In 1897 a memorial was erected on the spot where the grave was assumed to be.

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Duncker's monument at Hörnefors.

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Duncker's monument at Hörnefors.

**Bibliography**

* *Duncker och Savolaxbrigaden* by Bertil Nelsson; 2000–01; [ISBN 978-91-88930-81-1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special%3ABookSources/9789188930811)