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Craftsman Hieronymus van Tuyll of Serooskerken

If there has been someone who has meant a lot to the village of Stavenisse, we can surely call Hieronymus van Tuyll van Serooskerken.

In the 26 years that he was a Craftsman, he accomplished a lot. Very popular with the inhabitants, he felt at home at the village.

Hieronymus was born in 1614 in Middelburg and was first married to Anna Maria van Liere. After she died, he married Margaretha Huijssen, a Middelburg lady. Hieronymus died on April 22, 1669, only 55 years old and childless. Margaretha married in 1671 with Heer Willem Aelbert Grave Dona, who died in 1673 at the defense of Maastricht. In 1675 Margaret marries for the third time with Colonel Count van Flodroff.

Hieronymus became owner of Stavenisse on 17 October 1643 by inheritance and purchase. Much has been achieved under his management. He ordered a polder, the Margarethapolder, and a new harbor to dig. In 1657, the most was built. 3 years later the village court.

In 1653 he had the "Slot tot Stavenisse" built. He often stayed there and carried out a comprehensive study on the arms and sex science of the Zeeland nobility. Every year he was present at the renewal of the magistrate. A part of the canal and moat walls are still visible from this castle.

The special bond that Hieronymus had with Stavenisse is also expressed in his desire to be buried in the Reformed Church. After he died on 22 April 1669, 55 years old and childless, his wife Margaretha commissioned sculptor Rombout Verhulst to manufacture a valuable tomb. Especially for this a chapel was built behind the pulpit of the old church.



Sculptor Rombout Verhulst

Rombout Verhulst was certainly not the first sculptor. He was born in Mechelen in 1624 and died in 1698. From his hand is the grave monument of Michiel de Ruijter in the Nieuwe Kerk in Amsterdam. The tomb monuments of Maarten Tromp and Jan van Galen were also made by him. Works by him can also be seen in Aagtekerke and Brouwershaven.

M. van Notten mentioned in his book "R. Verhulst, an overview of his works ", that Van Tuyll's tomb" occupies a first place among the very good works of our