



*Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution*

**Patriot of the Month; November 2009**  
**Richard A. Morris**



The Missouri State Society NSDAR is pleased to honor Richard A. Morris as a Patriot of the Month for November 2009.

Richard enlisted in the United States Navy in July 1956, as a Seaman Recruit and served thirty-two years and three months before he was honorably retired in November 1989, as a Master Chief Petty Officer.

Richard served on Shore Duty assignments as a Navy Instructor and supply/logistics at Omaha, Nebraska, Sioux City, Iowa, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, Memphis, Tennessee and Paducah, Kentucky. He served Sea Duty assignments aboard the USS St. Paul CA73, USS Helena CA75, USS Rochester CL124, and the USS Damato, DD871.

Richard is a Qualified Surface Warfare Specialist and served as Master Chief Petty Officer of the Command at Readiness Command, Region 13, Great Lakes, Illinois and Readiness Command, Region 18, in Olathe, Kansas.

Awards and Recognition received:

- Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
- National Defense Medal
- Armed Forces Reserve Medal (3)
- Navy Commendation Medal (3)
- Navy Achievement Medal
- Navy Good Conduct Medal (7)
- Navy Battle "E" Medal

Richard and his wife Nancy have six children, eleven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Nancy is retired from the U.S. Naval Reserves and is also listed as a Patriot of the Month. Richard is a member of the Masonic Lodge and the First Church of Peculiar, Missouri.

A personal note from Richard states, "I would never have agreed to submit my service information and participate had it not been that Mrs. R. Margaret (Marge) Bellem (1939-2009), Prairie Chapter DAR, asked me to do it just a few months before she passed. Mrs. Bellem was a great American and true patriot who worked tirelessly in support of our United States Armed Services. I very respectfully submit my service information and dedicate it to the honor and memory of Mrs. R. Margaret (Marge) Bellem."

Prairie Chapter proudly nominated Richard A. Morris as a Patriot of the Month.