

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly "Spotlights" our Patriot of the Month for August 2010



Damon Cox

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**Armstrong Chapter
Armstrong, Missouri**



Damon graduated from Macon High School in 1939. He was drafted into the Army Air Force in 1943 and went to basic training in Tampa, Florida. He attended airplane mechanic school, airplane engine school, and gunnery school. Damon was picked for a B-24 Bomber crew where he became a top turret gunner and a flight engineer. His crew went to Kansas to pick up their plane and flew to England to link up with the 8th Air Force.

During WWII he flew 31 bombing missions over occupied Europe. His second mission was on D-Day, a cloudy day as they flew over and bombed Normandy early in the morning before troops landed. Bombing missions were normally flown at 24,000 feet where bad flak was encountered. On the day they bombed the marshalling yards in Belgium, he recalls seeing the White Cliffs of Dover. His plane was part of a 1,000 plane formation going on a bombing raid on Berlin. After the bombing and as they were returning to base, he recalls the navigator came over the intercom saying to break formation as there was a three gun battery ahead. That was the last his plane saw of the lead plane, it was going down in smoke with no parachutes observed coming from the plane.

He left England in September 1944, after completing 31 missions. His next assignment was as an instructor at an aircraft school in Biloxi, Mississippi. He was discharged in September 1945 at Scotts Field, Illinois with the rank of Tech Sergeant.

Damon's medals include:

- Flight Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters
- World War II Victory Medal

Damon went to work in January 1947 for Orscheln Brothers Truck Lines where he worked for 38 years. In June 1947, he married Anna Lucille Guffey of Ardmore, Missouri. They have four children. He is a member of the Jefferson Avenue Methodist Church.