

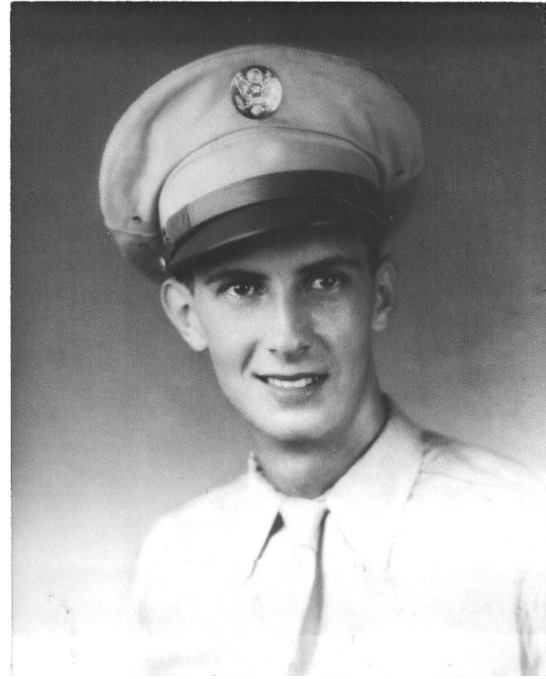
Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly “Spotlights” our January 2011
Patriot of the Month



Paul T. Hibbard

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**Armstrong Chapter
Armstrong, Missouri**



Paul T. Hibbard graduated from Perry High School on May 20, 1944. He was drafted into the Army two days later and received his basic training at Camp Livingston, Louisiana. He was trained as a technician working as a clerk typist. Duty stations included Fort Riley, Kansas, Fort Ord, California, Fort Lewis, Washington and Korea.

Paul's unit was going to the Philippines, but missed the convoy, so they were diverted to Korea. He was assigned to Regimental Headquarters Intelligence observing the North Koreans. North Koreans would torture the South Koreans, steal their weapons and hide them in caves. The Military Police would take the tortured South Koreans to Intelligence, and then on to the hospital. Paul would interrogate the South Koreans in the hospital and when he would return the next day to continue the interrogation, he was told they had died during the night. Later it was discovered the doctor in charge of the hospital was the communist leader in that area. He

didn't want anyone to interrogate the South Koreans, so they would be taken out during the night, tortured and killed. When Paul left Korea, this doctor was on military trial. He never learned the outcome of the trial.

Paul arrived back in the states in late 1946 and was discharged as a T5-Corporal on January 5, 1947.

His awards include:

- Victory Medal
- Army of Occupation Medal (Japan)
- Meritorious Unit Award

Paul wanted to go to Veterinary School, but there were too many students, so he bought a farm and start farming. He married Erma Ruth Poage on May 29, 1950. They had a son, daughter, and one grandson. Erma Ruth passed away on November 1, 1974. Paul married Shirley Yager on June 19, 1977. She had two children and two grandchildren. Shirley also had a niece that they raised. They have two great-grandchildren.

Paul moved to town in 1980 but continued farming until 2000. He still has a cattle operation. Paul sold livestock equipment for several different companies. He has been on every continent except Antarctica. Paul is a member of the First Christian Church, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Moose Lodge.