



Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Patriot of the Month
January, 2013



Russell Tafoya

Sponsored by:

White Alloe Chapter DAR

Sergeant First Class Russell Tafoya was born July, 1956. He completed high school and one year of college before serving his country in the U.S. Army from 1963 to 1969. Russell was in Europe the Far East including Viet Nam. While in the Army, Russell was a Master Paratrooper, Combat Infantryman, and Rifle Platoon Sergeant.

During the Viet Nam conflict Russell was injured when an improvised explosive device (IED) exploded. He sustained a head injury due to shrapnel being embedded in his head.

Medals and Awards Russell earned were the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, the National Defense Service Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, the Viet Nam Campaign Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Unit Citation for Valor.

Russell and his wife, Judith, were married September 14, 1971. They have two daughters and two grandchildren. Russell was employed in civilian life as a food service manager at Missouri Southern State University, and as a postal worker. He is a member of the Catholic Church and enjoys spending time with his family.

The White Alloe Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution are proud to nominate Russell Tafoya as Patriot of the Month and honor him for his service to our country.