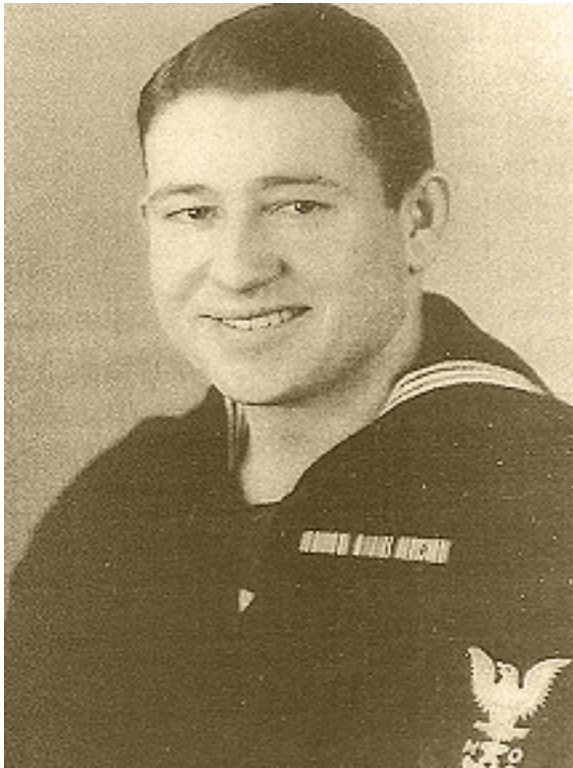




**Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
Patriot of the Month  
August 2013**



**Lawrence Darrell Holden**

Sponsored by

**Ozark Spring Chapter**

Darrell Holden was drafted into the Navy on April 15, 1943. He completed his basic training at Farragot, Idaho, Naval Training Center. After boot camp, he trained as a Landing Craft Vehicle (LCV) operator and was assigned to the USS De Grasse, a crater class cargo vessel. They were active in the Pacific theatre during World War II transporting troops among the Marshalls, the Gilberts, and the Marianas. They also trained men in the Hawaiian area for amphibious assault.

In June and July 1944 the De Grasse was in active combat off the coast of Saipan as they loaded reinforcements. After that campaign he was assigned to the USS L.S.T.-193 and trained as a 3<sup>rd</sup> class Motor Machinist. The USS L.S.T.-193 was a tank loading ship that participated in the Asiatic-Pacific campaign and involved in the Okinawa-Gunto Operation Assault and the occupation of Okinawa in June 1945.

Awards and medals Darrell earned are: Bronze Star, Okinawa Assault Campaign Medal, and the Pacific Theatre Campaign Medal.

Darrell was discharged the 28<sup>th</sup> of February, 1946.

Darrell and his wife of 67 years, Pearl Bradley Holden, were born and raised in Shannon County, Missouri. They own a farm, where Darrell started a dairy operation and later raised beef cattle. He also was a rural mail carrier and served as pastor of several rural churches in South Central Missouri. Darrell documented a candid account of his time in the military with a book "My Life in the U. S. Navy," which is placed in the genealogy section of several area public libraries.

The Ozark Spring Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution are proud to nominate Lawrence Darrell Holden as Patriot of the Month and thank him for his dedicated service to his country.