

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Patriot of the Month September 2013





Merle Stallman

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Armstrong Chapter

Merle Stallman graduated from Armstrong High School, Armstrong, Missouri, in May 1943. He was employed by Brown Shoe Company in Moberly until he was drafted January 20, 1944, into the Army at Jefferson Barracks, MO. He received basic training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He became a Rifleman 745. He went from there to Camp Kilmer, New Jersey then on to New York where he left for England November 1944. He was assigned to the 69th Infantry Division 272nd Infantry Regiment.

He participated in the Rhineland and Central Europe Campaigns. Merle was sent as a replacement during the Battle of the Bulge. In Germany on April 7, 1945, Merle was standing with some of his comrades when a shell came in with shrapnel hitting him on the left side of his forehead and other places on his body. He was evacuated to England until his wounds healed, then back to Germany to rejoin his outfit. They moved across Germany and met up with the Russians at the Elbe River on April 25, 1945.

Medals Merle received are the World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Purple Heart, European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with 2 Bronze Stars and 2 Overseas Bars. He was discharged May 8, 1946.

As a civilian, Merle worked under the GI Bill with Clyde Boyer, ECPA as an apprentice to become an accountant. Later he worked as an accountant with C.L. Kleitz and from 1951 – 1953 he worked for the State Department at the American Embassy at Pusan, Korea, during the Korean War. When he returned to Moberly, he worked for International Harvester Proving Grounds, and after it closed he was transferred to Chicago Melrose Park where he worked as an overseas accountant. He retired at the age of 57 on November 1, 1982, after twenty–nine years with Chicago Melrose Park, which was part of International Harvester and is known as NAVISTAR.

Merle never did marry but did enjoy traveling. After retiring, he became a world traveler and enjoyed several cruises. He is a member of Yates Baptist Church. He has one brother, Charles Stallman and one sister, Sylvia Amos.

The members of the Armstrong Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution are proud to nominate Merle Stallman as Patriot of the Month and wish to extend our gratitude and thanks for his service to our great country.