

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



Patriot of the Month

January 2015



Robert P. McManus

Sponsored by:

Armstrong Chapter



Robert graduated in February 1944 at Van Nuys High School in California where he was in ROTC and attained the rank of Captain. He enlisted in the Navy on May 9, 1944, at North Hollywood, California, and received boot camp in San Diego. After completing boot camp, he was sent to St. Louis, Missouri, to attend an industrial school for five months as an electrician, then from there he was sent to Treasure Island at California where he boarded a transport ship which took him to another island where he boarded the USS Boston, a heavy cruiser/light battleship, and sailed to Formosa in the South Pacific, then on to Iwo Jima. Robert maintained one of the lights in one of the three turrets where the bullets were eight inches in diameter on the USS Boston. Robert stated while at Iwo Jima, he never got hit, but could hear the shells whizzing by overhead. When the USS Boston left Iwo Jima, it was about the end of the war, and they came back to San Pedro, California to dry dock. Later, they returned to an area near Iwo Jima and the war was over at that time. The USS Boston sailed on to Tokyo, Japan to an outer harbor where they saw the USS Missouri sail into the inner harbor for the signing of the Japanese surrender document by General Douglas MacArthur and representatives from the Empire of Japan and other countries, marking the end of World War II. This event occurred on September 2, 1945. The USS Boston was assigned to an area around Tokyo for a 6 month occupation and after 6 months returned to Seattle, Washington for storage. Robert left Seattle and traveled by train to San Pedro, California where he received an honorable discharge as a Fireman First Class in June 1946. Robert received the Asiatic-Pacific Area Medal, American Area Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

After being discharged, Robert returned to his home in Inglewood, California. He went to work as a civilian for the VA Hospital for about eight months until the hospital closed, then began employment at the Los Angeles Post Office for seven years. He then worked at GT Telephone Company in Los Angeles, California and retired from there after twenty-five years. Robert married Anna Iloff of Pollock Pines, California, on December 7, 1985. He has two children who are Linda Godfrey and Steven. He also has six stepchildren. He attends the Moberly Assembly of God Church and is a lifetime member of the Moberly VFW.

The members of the Armstrong Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution wish to extend our gratitude to Robert P. McManus for his service to our great country.