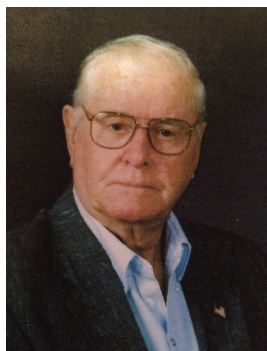


# *Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution*



## **Patriot of the Month**

March 2016



*William Sidwell*

Sponsored by:

Schuyler Chapter



William Sidwell enlisted in the United States Merchant Marines in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1943. He, along with four other Queen City young men, joined at the same time. He immediately went to Catalina Island for six weeks of basic training.

Following basic training Bill was assigned to the S.S. Egg Harbor, which was a wartime tanker of the series T2-SE-A1. Bill said this ship carried about forty-two Merchant Marines and seventeen Navy sailors for defense. They sailed out of Balboa, Panama, to the the South Pacific. On one of the trips Bill became ill. The captain offered to stop at the Hawaiian Islands. This would allow a quicker arrival to a hospital, but Bill refused. When they arrived in Port at Panama, Bill went into the hospital with a ruptured appendix. He was there for quite awhile recovering.

The U.S. Merchant Marines were not recognized as veterans of World War II until the late 1980s. Although they sailed in submarine infested water for a duration of the war. Following the end of the war and his honorable discharge, Bill and his wife returned to the family farm in Queen City, Missouri. Bill's wife, Eloise, recently passed. Bill has three sons. He is a member of the American Legion Post #784 of Queen City.

The Daughters of the Schuyler Chapter DAR are proud to nominate William Sidwell as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.