

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors as

Patriot of the Month July 2016



**Sponsored by:
Alexander Doniphan Chapter**

Robert Box United States Marine Corps

Robert Box, a native Missourian now living back in his home state, volunteered for military service in 1953 during the Korean War. He was 19 years old at the time and wanted to serve his country. Coming from a Navy background, that was the service of his choice. However, the Marine Corps got to him first and before he knew it he was a proud Private in the U.S. Marine Corps.

He served in Korea until the Korean conflict was resolved. He then served stateside for a few years. Vietnam was just around the corner and he was going to be a participant. While in the United States however, he served in a great many areas of need. Marines are not allowed to drag their feet. His service included Japan, Okinawa, Philippines, Vietnam and a number of duty stations state side. He served in Japan for one year with the Air Wing Division. One five year assignment was in New Orleans where he was a member of an Honor Guard detail standing by for the welcoming of many dignitaries to the United State. Charles DE Gaulle, the President of France, the President of Argentina, and our own John F. Kennedy to name a few. He then transferred to California, Marine Corps Base Twentynine Palms and Treasure Island Naval Base. During this time we were now deeply involved in the Vietnam War, his duty was meeting and escorting bodies of our fallen troops – extremely difficult times. Robert was soon deployed to Vietnam himself serving as Second Lieutenant and Field Commander.

In his career he served from Private to Staff Sergeant, to Lieutenant, and on to Captain. He was a Supply Instructor at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune as one of his last duties. He served his country for 28 years before retiring. He maintains that he has never ever regretted his military career, but admittedly at times a little frightened. He was certainly glad to return to the United States. After retirement and back to Kansas City, he found employment with the Department of Defense with a team involved in closing bases throughout the United States where in a sense he was still connected to his beloved Marine Corps.

He is an active member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Marine Corps League. Widowed now, he was married for over 50 years to a navy nurse. They had two daughters. His wife passed away in 2009.

A great day for him recently was as a member of an Honor Flight to Washington DC, a truly overwhelming experience for him. A DAR member from Kansas escorted him that day. It was a great experience for him and he wishes all veterans could have the experience.

Alexander Doniphan Chapter Daughters are proud to nominate Robert Box as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude and appreciation for his patriotic and civil service to our great nation.