

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

November 2016



Sponsored by:
Warrensburg
Chapter



Joe D. Sloan United States Marine Corps

Joe Sloan was born in Iowa, where his parents were farmers. One of ten children, he quit high school to join the Marine Corps at the age of 17. Later, while serving in Korea, he earned his GED. His four brothers also served in the military.

Joe was inducted into the United States Marine Corps in Des Moines, Iowa. He was sent to San Diego, California, for boot camp, then transferred to Camp Pendleton, California and then to Korea as a field radio operator, where he was assigned to H&S Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines. Joe took a Radio Telegraph Operator Course (ROTC) in Florida and served three years as an instructor of the ROTC. He served in several locations, including Vietnam, Parris Island, South Carolina, Korea a second time, and ended his service at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. During his second tour in Korea, he earned a Bronze Star Medal with the V for Valor. Joe is modest about that, merely saying, "Oh, I was just doing my job." Joe was also awarded the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Campaign, and Good Conduct Medal.

Joe attended the Morse Supervisors Course at NSA, and was an instructor in communications for most of his career. After 18 years of service, his Commanding Officer, a Major, recommended him to be commissioned as

an officer. Joe objected, he wanted to go home. He was ordered to write a letter to the Commandant of the Marine Corps stating why he did not want to be an officer.

Joe struggled with that letter, discarding a great pile of drafts that dissatisfied him. Can a Marine tell the Commandant he is tired of being a Marine? He finally accepted the commission; it was easier than writing that letter. He served two years as an officer and retired as a Captain from Camp Lejeune, North Carolina after 20 years of dedicated service.

After he retired from the military, Joe worked for 21 years for an insurance company. He and his wife, Lauren, have seven children, several grandchildren, and one great grandchild. He is active in the Lutheran Church, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Kiwanis.

Warrensburg Daughters are proud to recognize and honor Joe Sloan as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism and dedication to our great nation.