

**Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly Honors**

Patriot of the Month



October 2017



Etsel Leon Eidson

United States Army

Sponsored by:
Henry County
Chapter



Etsel entered the United States Army in October of 1966 at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and then transferred to Fort Hood, Texas. After one year of intense training Etsel was sent to Vietnam with Company A, 1st Battalion, 52 Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade. He was a light weapons infantryman and squad leader before he was wounded.

Etsel came home from Vietnam after being wounded and losing a leg. He was sent to Fitzsimmons General Hospital in Colorado. After treatment there, he was transferred to the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital, Kansas City for further surgeries. While at the VA, Etsel was discharged as a Sergeant in 1968.

Etsel was awarded the following medals and awards: Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Sharpshooter Badge w/Rifle Bar, Marksman Badge w/Pistol Bar.

After his discharge, Etsel enrolled at the University of Central Missouri and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Business degree. He ran for his local County Missouri Treasurer/Ex-Officio Collector and was elected. He retired after 6 terms, 24 years, in office.

Etsel returned home with an above knee leg amputation and with great determination made a full life for himself and his family. He never let anything stop him from trying to do something. When first back in the States, he learned how to snow ski and ride a bicycle for two. He continued to bowl with a regular league and was very active with the local rodeo and other civic organizations and activities. Over the years, he has raised cattle, baled hay, built a small go-cart track and numerous playground things for his children and grandchildren. He still works in his yard of over two acres, mowing and weed eating. He manages to attend most of his grandchildren's sporting events.

Etsel has been active in the Jaycees, Masons, Odd Fellows, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and Disabled American Veterans. He has served on his City's Township Board and Township Road Board.

Etsel and Linda have been married for over 54 years. They have a daughter and a son. Etsel also has 3 grandchildren, who are keeping him young.

Etsel has always been proud of his family and service to his country. His father, two brothers, and son have all served their country.

Henry County Daughters are very proud and honored to recognize Etsel Leon Eidson as Patriot of the Month for his dedicated patriotism and service to our great nation.