

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month

February 2018



John V. Cox

United States
Marine Corps

Sponsored by:
Anne Helm
Chapter

John was born in Missouri, in March, 1930. He attended Northeast Missouri State Teachers College, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. He also holds a Master's Degree in International Affairs from George Washington University.

John entered the United States Marine Corps via the Officer Candidate program at Quantico, Virginia, and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in September, 1952. After completing Basic School, he reported for flight training and was designated a Naval Aviator in July, 1954.

Successive assignments were with all three active Marine Aircraft Wings and with the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing; service on the *USS Lake Champlain (CVS-39)*; duty as an air and naval gunfire platoon commander, duty with Marine Fighter Squadron VMF-451 (VFM-451), VMF-333, and Marine Attack Squadron, VMA-324. He completed Communications Officer School, served as Communications Officer at Marine Aircraft Group 15 (MAG-15) El Toro, and later was Operations Officer of VMFA-513, El Toro, Atsugi, and Da Nang (1962-1965).

John graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College in 1967, and after serving as an instructor at the Naval War College, returned to Vietnam for a second tour of duty, serving as Commanding Officer of VMFA-115 and as Executive Officer of MAG-13 at Chu Lai.

Tours of duty in the 1970's include Executive Officer of Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), Kaneohe Bay and duty on the staff of the Commander in Chief, Pacific. After graduation from the National War College in 1974, John reported for duty at Headquarters Marine Corps. He was promoted to Brigadier General in November, 1977. Duty as Assistant Wing Commander, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing; Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade; Assistant Chief of Staff at Headquarters Marine Corps; Deputy Chief of Staff for Research, Development, and Studies at Headquarters Marine Corps; Commanding General, Marine Corps Air Station El Toro/Commander, Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area, followed.

John was promoted to Major General in April, 1981, with a date of rank of August, 1978. He assumed command of the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Station, El Toro, California, in May, 1981. In June, 1982, he was assigned duty as the Director of Operations, J-3 for the Commander in Chief, Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii. He served in this capacity until July, 1985, when he retired from the Marine Corps.

His personal decorations include: Defense Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit w/Combat "V"; Bronze Star Medal w/Combat "V"; Air Medal/w Numeral 19; Joint Service Commendation Medal; and Navy Commendation Medal w/Combat "V" and gold star in lieu of a second award.

John and his wife, Patricia, a farm girl from Missouri, have four children. In his civilian community John belongs to several military organizations and is on the Board of Directors of The Retired Officers Association, Navy Relief Society, and Navy Marine Corps Residence Association.

Anne Helm Daughters are very proud and honored to recognize John V. Cox as Patriot of the Month for his outstanding dedication, patriotism and service to our great nation.