

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month



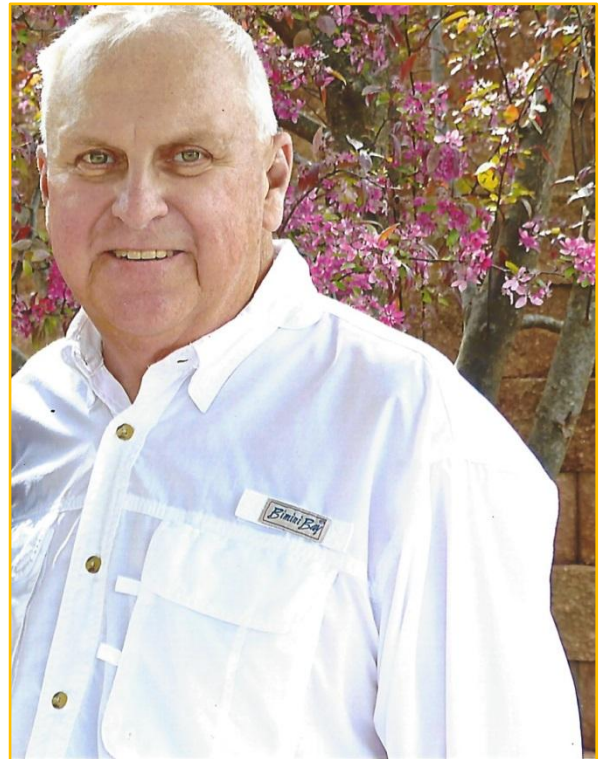
February 2018



Larry E. Kinsland

United States Army

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White Alloe
Chapter



Larry joined the United States Army in 1970. During his time in service his duty stations were: Fort Knox, Kentucky; Fort Riley, Kansas, 29th Infantry Division (Light), Charlottesville, Virginia; Headquarters, Fort Drum, New York; Headquarters, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland; 326th Area Support Group, Fort Riley, Kansas; 436 Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Accident Recovery Company; United States Army Chemical Weapons Research Center, Maryland; United States Army Chemical Decontaminate Activity, Fort McClellan, Alabama; Headquarters United States Army Chemical Activity, Newport Indiana; Army Materiel Command Liaison Officer (Desert Storm) Pentagon, Washington, DC; Headquarters Army Materiel Command.

Larry's medals include The Legion of Merit and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Larry recalled one incident during "Exercise Reforger" (Reinforcing Europe) in the 1980's.

"We got to Antwerp, Germany on a C47 cargo plane. Our job was to head to Northern Europe for training in working with contaminated/hazardous materials. Hazardous chemical weapons had been stockpiled and we were using this as training in how to stay safe when in contact with chemical weapons.

We headed through the beautiful German countryside with six, 2.5 ton trucks of decontaminated material, six, 500 gallon water trucks, six, 5 ton trucks of decontaminate material, and 14 other Army trucks. In Europe the streets in small towns are very narrow and commonly have at least one sharp turn in the town somewhere.

As we headed into their small town, I noticed that they are building a church right at one of those narrow corners in the middle of town. They were constructing a wall with bricks and mortar – so there was lots of concrete. I turned to look back at the line of Army trucks behind me, thought –there is no way our big long trucks can get through this turn in the road in this town! I started walking back to talk with the truck drivers, then as I and a bunch of guys are walking back to the head of the convoy, I see that ALL of the townspeople are out in the street, removing bricks, hauling away concrete and generally making it possible for our convoy to make it through their town – ALL of them, old and young alike! We began to help them, so they adopted us and decided that we should stay the night with them and they would hardly take “no” for an answer – but at last I had to make it clear that we were expected up the way and could not spend the night with them – but that we were very thankful for their hard work and generosity! They made it clear that they really appreciated us, the United States of America!

We made it through the town and made it to our destination. An official letter was sent to the village thanking them for their generosity and hospitality towards us.

In reflecting on this incident, I realize that in some cases/countries, a unit would have been mobilized to rectify the situation (make the road passable), then a bill would have been sent to the United States of America for the trouble.

It was a lesson in humanity that I will never forget.”

After Larry’s retirement in 2002, he worked as a Regional Customer Relations Manager for Mazda and as a dealer contact for Ford Customer Service Division.

White Alloe Daughters are proud and honored to recognize Larry E. Kinsland as Patriot of the Month for his dedication, patriotism and service to our great nation.