

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month  
December 2019



## Leonard Berkel

### United States Army

Sponsored by:  
O'Fallon  
Chapter

Leonard 'Len' Berkel was drafted into the United States Army in 1969, completing basic training at Ft. Benning, GA and attending artillery school in Ft. Sill, OK. Len served 14 months in Vietnam assigned to the 2/9<sup>th</sup> Artillery, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

For his service, Len was awarded several medals and citations including National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 3 Bronze Campaign Stars, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 device. He is most proud of receiving the Army Presidential Unit Citation. He was honorably discharged in 1971.

In civilian life, Len has served as president of his local Vietnam Veterans of America chapter for the past 12 years. The chapter attends Greater St. Louis Honor Flight Welcome Home events at Lambert International Airport and serves as Honor Guard, leading the procession of veterans into the ceremonies. He continues to wear the POW/MIA bracelet bearing the name of Cpt. Steven N. Bezold. Bezold was shot down in 1968 and is still MIA.

O'Fallon Daughters are very proud to honor and recognize Leonard Berkel as Patriot of the Month for his dedication, patriotism and service to our great nation.

