

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month

April 2021



Albert Russell Joines

United States Army

Sponsored by:
Sarah Barton Murphy
Chapter

Mr. Albert Joines enlisted in the United States Army in 1968. He completed basic training in Missouri and advanced infantry training, MOS: 11B40, in California before he served his entire tour in Vietnam during the Tet Offensive. Mr. Joines was a member of the 7th Battalion, 1st Cavalry Regiment where he promoted to squad leader. His team, Road Runner 28, participated in clearing operations, rescued pilots from Cambodia and Laos, and searched for prisoners of war in several parts of the country. Throughout his tour, Mr. Joines held onto the outside of helicopters waiting to jump into landing zones under fire, not knowing which part of the country he was in or what the day would bring. During his time in the service, the US Army awarded Mr. Joines with the Bronze Star Medal of Valor, the Bronze Star Medal with Oak leaf Cluster, and the Air Medal. At 19, he turned down the Purple Heart after sustaining an injury that left him temporarily unconscious which required immediate medical assistance with a medevac. Additional medals received: National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal w/3 Stars; Vietnam Service Campaign Medal w/60 Device; Combat Infantryman Badge; Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/Palm; and Expert Marksman.



Mr. Joines recalls seeing elephants along the Ho Chi Minh Trail, monkeys and clear blue streams in the middle of the muddy Delta and deer with antlers the size of dogs as the most interesting things he saw. He described a good day with decent food which meant they had stumbled upon sea rations at a fire base and an even better day when they ran into teams with LRP rations. The best advice he received in the US Army he passed onto his children who joined the military, "Do not volunteer for anything and do not ask any questions." He said it will keep you out of trouble every time.

After Vietnam, Mr. Joines completed his enlistment at Ft. Carson, Colorado where he led training for his platoon. He returned home to St. Louis, MO where he raised a family and had a successful career in roll forming in global operations. He worked his way up from welder in the shipyards and later owned his own roll forming installation and repair company. He still conducts training and consulting for businesses across the United States and Canada.

Today, Mr. Joines and his wife live in their retirement home in Ste. Genevieve, MO where he fishes from his boat in the lakes around the property and hunts during deer season. He enjoys traveling with his wife and grown children and helping the neighbors with projects like roofing and construction. Mr. Joines is a member of the VFW and American Legion and a well-respected member of his community.

Sara Barton Murphy Daughters are proud to honor and recognize Albert Russell Joines as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism and invaluable service to our great nation.