

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

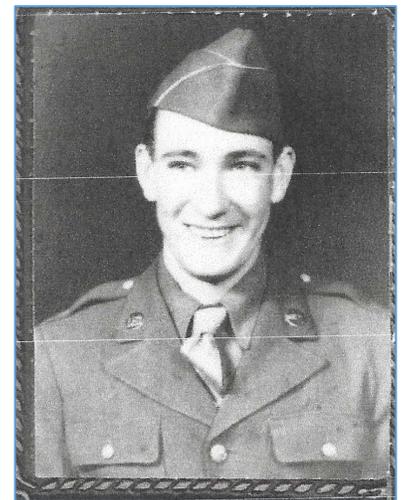
November 2021

James A. Dunbar

United States Army



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Montgomery
Chapter



James Dunbar of rural Wellsville Missouri was a 20 year old farmer when he was drafted into the US Army to serve during WW II on October 14, 1944. He reported for training at Fort Knox, Kentucky on November 6, 1944 and was there until March 3, 1945. James was trained to drive a truck for the armored division. He would be assigned to the 14th Armored Division Germany-47th Tank Battalion. After a short leave home, he reported to Fort Meade in Baltimore, Maryland for three weeks. While there, he saw President Roosevelt in a parade just days before his death.

Private James Dunbar's port of embarkation was Pier 16, Staten Island, New York and after a 12 day crossing of the Atlantic, James landed in Le Havre, France. He next rode a train for about five days to Nuremberg, Germany and arrived there on the 5th or 6th of May. He was actually at the front lines for the first time the night after the war ended in Europe. He would remain in central Europe for 1 year, 3 months, and 17 days. During that time his responsibilities included training initially for the Pacific Theater with the 191st Tank Battalion until the atom bomb was dropped. He was also assigned to the Service Company 774th Tank Battalion. He drove a truck all over Germany carrying German prisoners of war as they surrendered: one such trip involved driving 180 prisoners 600 miles to Belgium. He also carried tank track, K rations and gas.

In August 1946, Tec 5 James Dunbar was discharged from the US Army and returned home after receiving medals for shooting and one bronze star. He returned to farming in rural Wellsville on his family farm where he resides today. He recalls Psalm 91 being of particular comfort to him as he left to serve his country: *"He that dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: My God; in him will I trust."*

Montgomery Chapter Daughters are very proud to honor and recognize James A. Dunbar as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism and dedicated service to our great nation.