

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

November 2021

**John Swanson**

**United States Army**



Sponsored by:  
Saint Charles  
Chapter

John Swanson entered the U.S. Army on January 26, 1961 and was discharged on January 24, 1964. He served in the United States and Korea and performed cryptography and a variety of other positions.

He was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for Heroism, Good Service Medal, National Defense Medal for Cuban Crisis, Korea Defense Service Medal, and Sharp Shooter medals with both M1 and M2 carbines. He also qualified with 1911 pistols.

Mr. Swanson relates that he had a number of interesting experiences while in the service which included seeing the Far East and being deployed on exercise on the 38th parallel looking into North Korea. He was able to see Midway Island which was the deciding battle in the Pacific theatre in 1942 when the U.S. Navy defeated the Japanese. He was present when President Kennedy visited Fort Stuart Georgia as a thank you to the 1st Armor Division.

He relates that his uncle, a World War II vet, advised him to never volunteer, and to carry clean socks and underwear in his gas mask carrier instead of a gas mask.

After his discharge from the service, Mr. Swanson worked for over forty years in management in the Automotive Aftermarket industry. He has been married to his wife, Michele, for 55 years and has two sons, John and Matt, and four grandchildren: AJ, Scott, Mackenzie, and Sydney. Mr. Swanson is a member of Fernando de Leyba SAR chapter as are his two sons and two grandsons.

Saint Charles Chapter Daughters are very proud to honor and recognize John Swanson as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism and dedicated service to our great nation.

