

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

December 2021



Douglas Lorton Sinn United States Army

Sponsored by:
Reverend John Clark
Chapter

Douglas Lorton Sinn served in the U.S. Army from May of 1971, to December of 1972, in Vietnam as a Medic with the Army's 11th Armored Cavalry, G Troop, 2nd Squadron, 2nd Platoon with the rank of Specialist 4. Doug had the duty, and honor, of tending to the wounded in his platoon. His dedicated service saved many lives, but his actions were unable to save all he treated. Doug took his responsibility to his fellow soldiers with utmost selfless commitment, and often with lack of concern for his own wellbeing.

Doug was born on June 20, 1951 in University City, MO. The temperature that day was 106 F, and his mom said she almost gave birth to him in the street. He attended Pershing Grade School and graduated from Parkway Senior High School in 1969. His first job after High School was as a production worker at McGraw Hill Publishing. While watching the draft on TV one afternoon, his number, June 20 #10, was pulled. He quit his job and drove his VW Beetle Bug to Steamboat Springs, CO to go trout fishing with his oldest brother. A week later, Doug got a call from his dad saying "your Uncle Sam is looking for you". In the Spring of 1971, he left for boot camp at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, and then on to Advanced Medical Training in Fort Sam Houston, Houston, TX, then left for Vietnam.

He arrived in Vietnam in the November 1971, as a Medic Specialist 4, and was first attached to the Saigon Hospital, and then to the 11th Armored Cavalry, G Troop, 2nd Squadron, 2nd platoon. When he arrived at the fire base outside Bien Hoa, Vietnam, he was assigned to the medic APC (Armored Personnel Carrier). During one patrol in January 1972, Doug provided immediate field care to several platoon members who sustained life-threatening wounds. Using the skills he learned, Doug was able to stabilize a Captain who sustained severe gut wounds who was then air lifted out of theater, but later succumbed to his wounds. During the same patrol, Doug provided care to one soldier who sustained grave shrapnel wounds. This soldier recovered and was later able to thank Doug for saving his life. Doug saw many hours of active combat fighting, providing care and comfort to his fellow soldiers. For his dedication to duty, he was awarded the Medic Badge and an Infantryman's Badge.

Doug left Vietnam in December 1972 and was flown back to the United States. Upon his arrival at the San Francisco airport, he was greeted by angry people who called him a 'baby killer', and threw trash



at him. He was honorably discharged from the Army in December, 1972. When he returned to St. Louis, he immediately bought an old van and began traveling around the U.S. visiting friends and Vietnam Veterans with whom he had served.

Doug settled in Denver, CO, and worked at the VA Hospital as a nurse's assistant and used the GI bill to attend Metropolitan College in Denver, CO. Doug graduated with a BA in Science and a minor in Chemistry. After he graduated, he moved to New Orleans and worked as a government grain inspector for eight years. He then moved back home to St. Louis to be near his family. He worked in the plastics industry and personal care industry as a plant supervisor/production manager. Doug currently works for Pfizer in Chesterfield, Missouri.

In 2007, Doug received a letter from the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia requesting he become a member of the group. After a little prodding from his wife, he joined the group. Doug has attended every reunion since joining where he and his brothers-in-arms come together to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country, and to rekindle the brotherhood that only fellow veterans experience.

Doug is very proud his service in Vietnam, and of his service to our Country.

Reverend John Clark Chapter Daughters are very proud to honor and recognize Douglas Lorton Sinn as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism and dedicated service to our great nation.