



**Missouri State Society
Daughters of the American Revolution**



**Patriot of the Month, May 2008
Richard E. Schneider, Sr.**

Richard Schneider, Sr. was born in Montgomery City, Missouri. At the age of 17 and following the lead of his three brothers, who had joined the US Army, Richard enlisted on November 18, 1944, in the US Navy. He was sent to the US Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Illinois, for basic training. He served at the Air Training Base at Fort Pierce, Florida, and then was transferred to a naval base at Little Creek, Virginia.

In March 1945, Richard was transferred to a Navy Amphibious Base in Groton, Connecticut, where he was promoted to S1C and served in the Carrier Air Service Unit 28. Richard worked on the aircraft flight line launching and recovering Navy Flying Patrol bombers. These aircraft were 1930s-1940s vintage aircraft (which are still used today by the Forest Service to dump large amounts of water wherever it is needed.)

Richard received the WWII Victory Medal for his service. He was honorably discharged from the Navy in May 1946.

Richard married Rosemary M. McNail in 1945. Rosemary was a Naval Auxiliary and worked in the office at the Naval Base in New London, Connecticut, until the birth of their first child.

The Schneiders' returned to Missouri after Richard's discharge, settling in St. Louis. Richard was the manager of an A & P Grocery store for two years before the couple purchased a grocery store of their own in 1952, and added a second store in 1958, both in the St. Louis area.

Richard is the father of eleven children, 29 grandchildren, 49 great-grandchildren, and nine great-great grandchildren. He is a member of the American Legion Post in St. Louis.

Regent Carol McKay, daughter of Richard, and the Webster Groves Chapter are proud to nominate Richard E. Schneider, Sr. as Patriot of the Month.