

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
Proudly "Spotlights" our May 2012  
Patriot of the Month



**Willard Beaman**

Sponsored by:

**Armstrong Chapter  
Armstrong, Missouri**



Willard Beaman graduated in 1943 from Shelton Academy in Shelton, Nebraska. He then attended Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska for two years. In September 1945, he voluntarily joined the Navy and went to Boot Camp in San Diego, California. After boot camp, he transferred to an ammunition depot at Fall Brook, California, where he worked in a medical dispensary as a medic and drove an ambulance for three months until the base closed.

Willard shared a story about a fellow buddy who was driving the Packard Henney ambulance and backed into a post and smashed the tail lights. After this accident, none of the medics were allowed to drive the Packard Henney again and were restricted to driving the jeep. The medics job was to drive to the Marine Corps Base at Camp Pendleton, California which was ten miles away and pick up military patients and drive them to the hospital in Fall Brook, California.

Willard was transferred back to San Diego to a Naval Repair Base where he repaired ships. In August 1946, he was sent to the Naval Training Center, Baybridge, Maryland where he received his discharge with the rank of Seaman Second Class.

Willard's medals include:

- World War II Victory Medal
- Good Conduct Medal

Returning to Nebraska, he re-entered college. Willard graduated from Union College in May 1949 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religion. He did a pastoral internship for two years, then taught religion and music for two years at the high school level at his alma mater. He went to Seminary in Washington, DC for two years and graduated in 1954. He took Clinical Pastoral Education (and became a Fellow in the College of Chaplains with the American Protestant Hospital Association, then was certified as a chaplain in 1963. He was a pastor/evangelist for five years.

His job as a chaplain took him to Kailua, Oahu in Hawaii for ten years. He was then transferred to Moberly Regional Medical Center as the chaplain and also worked as a part-time chaplain at Moberly Department of Corrections until retiring in 1995.

Willard married Delores Fritz of McClusky, North Dakota on August 24, 1947. They have one son, who is an environmentalist, teaching biology at the college level.