

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



Donald Fowler

Sponsored by:

**Ann Haynes Chapter
Kirksville, Missouri**



Donald Fowler was married and teaching Junior High School mathematics and coaching football when his draft notice came. He enlisted in the Air Force on September 12, 1969. Completing basic training, he entered Officer's Training. After completing flight school, he became a B-52 Stratosphere Pilot.

Donald went through pilot training at Randolph Air Force Base in Texas. He also attended training at Castle Air Force Base, California. Donald was assigned to B-52 bases in Minot, North Dakota, Barksdale Air Force Base, Shreveport, Louisiana, and Blytheville Air Force Base, Arkansas. At Lakenheath Royal Air Force Base, United Kingdom, he was a Maintenance Officer and Squadron Commander for three years.

During his career, he was a B-52 Bomber Pilot, Aircraft Commander, Instructor Pilot, Command and Control Officer as an F-11 Maintenance Officer.

Flying missions over Hanoi and Baghdad, Donald was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for service in both Vietnam and in Desert Storm.

He states that he knows of no other person who did that.

Donald's awards, ribbons, and medals include:

- **Distinguished Flying Cross**
- **Meritorious Service Medal w/1 oak leaf cluster**
- **Air Medal w/oak leaf clusters**
- **Air Force Commendation Medal**
- **Air Force Outstanding Unit Award**
- **National Defense Service Medal**
- **Vietnam Service Medal**
- **Overseas Long Tour Ribbon**
- **Air Force Longevity Ribbon**
- **Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon**
- **Air Force Training Ribbon**
- **Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross**
- **Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal**
- **Southeast Asia Service Medal**

Retiring in 1992, Donald helped close Blytheville Air Force Base, Arkansas.

Obtaining his Master's Degree during his years in the Air Force, he returned to his love of teaching prior to full Air Force retirement in 2008. He continued to coach girls' softball for several years.

Donald and his wife June Hatfield Fowler have been married for forty-four years. They have two sons, one retired from the Army National Guard and one who previously served with the Air Force. They have three grandchildren.

June Fowler is a member of the Ann Haynes DAR Chapter.