

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly “Spotlights” our June 2012
Patriot of the Month



Donna Baldwin

Sponsored by:

**Rhoda Fairchild
Chapter
Carthage, Missouri**



Donna Baldwin was born in Beloit, Wisconsin on June 6, 1943. She graduated from high school in 1961 in Bremerton, Washington.

Donna entered the U.S. Army in 1962. She spent approximately seventeen years with the Army Security Agency in Administrative and Personnel areas.

Donna was the First Sergeant of Headquarters Company, United States Army Intelligence School, Fort Devens, Massachusetts and later Company A, United States Army Military Command, Heidelberg, West Germany. Both companies had both men and women assigned to them. In Heidelberg, her Company Barracks housed many soldiers from different units in and around Heidelberg which were not assigned or attached to Company A. Therefore, a lot of coordination was needed to get disciplinary action and problems taken care of. Another unit occupied some of the barrack space in the building but, their First Sergeant and orderly room were located in another part of Heidelberg. This was always a challenge.

Donna also served as the Adjutant General Sergeant Major/Personnel Sergeant Major for the 9th Personnel Service Company. This unit operated the military personnel office in direct

support of approximately 16,000 soldiers assigned and attached to the 9th Infantry Division, Ft. Lewis, Washington. This company was the Army 1st Corps level Personnel Service Company that was in direct support of a combat division.

Donna served in Vietnam during 1969 - 1970. She was the first female assigned to the 509th Radio Research Group. During 1972-1975, Donna was an Army Security Agency Recruiting Representative in Los Angeles, California.

She was sent to United States Army Security Agency Field Station, Sobe, Okinawa, to work in administrative duties in 1976 and was the Senior Female Advisor to the Commander of the Field Station. Donna served at Department of the Army levels at headquarters, U.S. Army Security Agency, Arlington Hall, Station, Arlington Virginia, where she worked in both Intelligence and Personnel Assignment Branch.

In the fall of 1985, Donna was a member of a Joint Working Group representing the United States Army on initiating women's uniform requirements for the future.

Donna has served in the Army within the United States, in Europe, and in the Far East. She has traveled extensively throughout those areas.

Donna's educational background includes various military and professional schools. She received her Associates Degree in 1977 and her Bachelor of Science degree in 1990. She was an honor graduate of the Non-Commissioned Officer Academy and of the U.S. Army Sergeant Major's Academy, which is the equivalent of the Army War College.

Donna retired after 26 years of service as a Sergeant Major.

Donna's medals, awards, and citations include:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Army Commendation Medal w/1 oak leaf cluster
- Army Commendation Medal w/2 oak leaf cluster
- Army Commendation Medal w/3d oak leaf cluster
- Meritorious Unit Citation
- Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry Unit Citation w/Palm 1970
- Army Good Conduct Medal 8 awards
- 4 Vietnam Service Medals

- **3 Army Overseas Service Ribbons**
- **Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal w/date Bar**
- **Army Service Ribbon**
- **Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Medal -5**
- **Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal w/date Bar**
- **Army Service Ribbon**
- **Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Medal -5**

Donna has received many Letters of Commendation and Appreciation throughout her career.

Shortly after Donna retired, she worked at several part-time jobs. She worked on the Census of 1990, 2000, and 2009 in preparation for the Census of 2010. Due to an old Army injury, she is unable to work and is now a 100% disabled veteran.

Donna enjoys crocheting, some traveling, and quilting as she is an enthusiastic participant of several quilting organizations. She is a member of the First Church of the Nazarene and a life member of numerous military associations.

Donna volunteered 206 hours assisting with the Joplin cleanup after the Joplin tornado.

Donna has been a member of Rhoda Fairchild DAR for 16 years. She has held several offices and served on many committees. She is very dedicated to DAR.