

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



**Sharon D. Settle
Keith**

Sponsored by:

**Captain Henry Whitener
Chapter
Fredericktown, Missouri**



Sharon D. Settle joined the Navy in St. Louis, Missouri on September 6, 1960. She went to boot camp at Bainbridge, Maryland and Storekeeper "A" school in San Diego, California. Her first assignment was to Commander 13th Naval District, Seattle, Washington where she had three month tours as a mess cook (galley) and Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) Barracks Master-at-Arms (compartment cleaning), and worked in a Yeoman's job (administrative). She then transferred to Naval Air Station, Lemoore, California to fill an open supply billet in the commissary office at the chow hall.

Sharon left the Navy at the end of her three year enlistment as a Storekeeper Second Class. She reenlisted eighty-eight days later to continue a career that lasted over twenty one years. She was assigned to Naval Air Station, Alameda, California where she worked in the commissary store for a few months. She then received orders as the Chief Master at Arms of the WAVE Barracks. Leaving Alameda, she transferred to Naval Air Station, Lakehurst, New Jersey where she worked in supply and accounting for almost three years.

For seven years, Sharon was the Company Commander/CMAA for the female aviation school students at the Naval Air Technical Training Center in Memphis, Tennessee. This was a very interesting and rewarding experience. While stationed in Memphis, she met and married her husband, Don Keith, who was also in the Navy. Don was the "boy next door" as he had a similar assignment for male students in barracks across from the WAVES barracks. Sharon's next duty assignment was the Data Processing Service Center, Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia. She worked in the budget office (computer contracts). Sharon then served a one year assignment with Naval Communications Station, Keflavik, Iceland while Don completed his sea tour. Her last assignment was Navy Recruiting District, Memphis, Tennessee as a Supply Chief. Sharon retired as a Senior Chief Storekeeper on April 30, 1982.

Sharon's medals include:

- Navy Achievement Medal
- Meritorious Service (2 awards)
- Good Conduct Medal (5 awards)
- National Defense Medal

After Sharon retired, she and Don returned to her home state of Missouri. She used the GI bill to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in education. After enjoying a couple years off, Sharon went to work at the Veterans Service Office with the Missouri Veterans Commission, where she assisted veterans and their dependents who were filing claims for benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs. While working with the Missouri Veterans Commission, she became Supervisor of the Southeast Region and later Director, Service to Veterans Program. Sharon retired in 2005 after seventeen years with the Missouri Veterans Commission.

Sharon is a member of the Christian Church, local American Legion Post, and Gateway WAVES. She says she feels blessed to have had two careers that she enjoyed (most of the time). She and Don enjoy traveling and spending time with family and friends.