

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



**William Fredrick
Thompson**

Sponsored by:

Prairie Chapter
Lee's Summit,
Missouri



William Fredrick Thompson enlisted in the United States Navy in Jackson, Tennessee on September 1941. He attended basic training in Norfolk, Virginia. He then was transferred to Portland, Maine where he was assigned to the *USS Denebola*, a destroyer tender. William was a Navy quartermaster. Destroyers from the North Atlantic came to the *Denebola* to be serviced. He remained on the *Denebola* approximately six months.

William was transferred to the Algiers Navy Base in New Orleans, where he waited for ten months for assignment. He was assigned to a minesweeper that was being built in Orange, Texas. While he was waiting, he met the light of his life, Beatrice Howard. On Thursday, July 1, 1943, they were married. On the following Monday morning, when he arrived at the Navy Base, his orders were waiting for him to be shipped to a base in South Carolina where he was to board the minesweeper. He traveled to Charleston, South Carolina; Savannah, Georgia;

Mayport, Florida; Jacksonville, Florida; Baltimore, Maryland; Miami, Florida; Detroit, Michigan; and Seattle, Washington. He was discharged September 1945, having earned the rank of Quartermaster Third Class. He went to Detroit, Michigan where his mother, father and wife were living at that time.

William worked as a draftsman in Memphis, Tennessee for Gardner & Howe Structural Engineers. William and Beatrice, now deceased, had two sons. Living on his own at age ninety four, he now resides near one of his sons. He is very proud of helping to defend our country.