



Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Patriot of the Month
April 2013



Lori Jean Buresh

Sponsored by:

Rhoda Fairchild Chapter DAR

Lori Jean Buresh entered the United States Naval Academy in July, 1996 at age seventeen. She tells, "I was a wide-eyed teenager with high expectations but no real clue as to the depth of the tradition and commitment of the service I joined." She spent her four years focusing on computer science. In her senior year she was selected as the Brigade Midshipman Information Systems Liaison Officer. This meant she was the head of the peer-to-peer computer support team for 4,000 midshipmen.

Lori graduated in May 2000, and was assigned for more indepth training on how to drive, save, and fight on a Navy surface ship at Newport, Rhode

Island. In December 2000 she reported to her first--and ultimately only ship, the USS Oak Hill (LSD-51). Her assignment was to be the First Division Officer where she was responsible for the traditional sailors and the Boatswain (Bo-sun) Mates or BM's. Again she says, "Nothing happens on a ship without the BMs and they taught me to work hard and play hard, which is exactly what every brand new Ensign needs in the Navy!" After about eight months Lori qualified as a Surface Warfare Officer and transitioned to the Combat Information Center Officer (CICO). As the CICO she was in charge of planning operations instead of executing them and she gained a more strategic view instead of a tactical one for the ship.

At the start of 2003 Lori became the Navigator for the Oak Hill and was directly responsible for getting the ship where it needed to go. With her navigation experience she quite naturally became interested in Meteorology and was transferred to the Naval Atlantic Oceanography and Meteorological Center. While there she forecasted weather, pressure systems, hurricane paths, and ship routing.

Awards and Medals she has earned:

- Surface Warfare Officer
- 2001 LSD Shiphandler of the Year
- 3 Navy Achievement Medals
- Navy/Marine Corps Unit Commendation Medal
- Sea Service Deployment Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- National Defense Medal
- Expert Rifleman
- Expert Pistol

Lori resigned her commission in August, 2004. She is currently CEO of The Professional Development Team, a leadership training and business coaching company. With eight years of IT support and knowledge she is in the final semester of her master's degree in computer information systems.

Lori is married to Mark Buresh, Retired Navy Senior Chief who served on submarines. They have a daughter, Elizabeth and son, William. Lori is involved with the Rotary Club, is the Naval Academy Blue and Gold Officer for Southwest Missouri, and is a youth leader and Sunday School leader for the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

The members of the Rhoda Fairchild Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution are pleased to honor Lori Jean Buresh as the MSSDAR Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude and thanks for her service to our country.