



**Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Patriot of the Month
August 2013**



Dominic Americo Greco

Sponsored by

John Sappington Chapter

Born to immigrant parents from Italy, Dominic Americo Greco was the first to graduate college in his family. After graduating from Missouri School of Mines, Rolla, Missouri, with a degree in Mechanical Engineering in January 1944, he enlisted in the United States Navy and qualified to attend the U. S. Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School at the Naval Academy (V-7) at Annapolis, MD. V-7 recruited 36,000 naval reserve officers to command the vastly expanding fleet in preparation for the war effort. After Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the war was on and an expanded officer corps became a matter of utmost urgency.

The majority of the junior officers who graduated from the Midshipmen's Program were dedicated to operations in the Pacific Theater during World War II. The

studies were tough and covered in detail engineering topics such as Dynamics and Astronomy. After four months of intensive training in which 200 college graduates started, Dominic was one of 77 who successfully completed the program and given the rank of USNR Ensign.

Following Midshipman School at Annapolis, the Navy sent Dominic to Amphibious Diesel Engineering School at General Motors Institute in Flint, Michigan. For six weeks he studied smaller engines for landing craft infantry. They learned how to tear down and rebuild an engine.

In October 1944, Dominic caught a transport to New Guinea. He was assigned to the Pacific front as Engineering Officer of LCI(R)-224, an anti-personnel rocket landing craft. A flat-bottomed gunboat with thirty sailors and four officers that supported amphibious landing craft. While on board, he was promoted to Lieutenant JG and assigned the Executive Officer position and was involved in five invasions. In January, 1945 during the Invasion of Lingayen Gulf they were approaching a position 1200 yards from the beach making a rocket run. They had to pass between a group of battleships with 16 inch guns and the beach. When the battleship blasted the vibration of the gunfire threw Dominic against the bulkhead of his ship causing the loss of hearing in his left ear.

He survived several more invasions, including the capture of Corregidor, and five typhoons in the South Pacific. Of the twelve ships in his flotilla, only three were left floating. After the bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima, the ship received orders to leave for the United States. Dominic served the last three months of his military duty in Orange, Texas, until his discharge in 1946. Dominic received the Victory Ribbon for World War II, the American Theater Ribbon, the Philippine Liberation Star, and the Asiatic-Pacific Star.

In 1946, Dominic joined his uncle as President of the Sewing Machine Service and Supply Company, Inc. until his retirement in 2004. He married Patricia, a member of the John Sappington Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution. They have two children, six stepchildren, and four grandchildren. Dominic is a member of the St. Raphael the Archangel Roman Catholic parish, the American Legion Post 111, and the Gateway Corkball League.

The John Sappington Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution is proud to nominate Dominic Greco as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude and thanks for his service to our country.