

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



## Patriot of the Month

August 2014



**Richard V. Drummond**

*Sponsored by:*

**Arrow Rock Chapter**



Richard V. Drummond was born on October 11, 1925, in Roadhouse, Illinois. The family soon moved to Slater, Missouri, where his father worked on the railroad. He graduated from Slater High School in 1943 and wanted to join the Aviation Cadet Program. Since he had not turned 18 yet, he needed permission, and his mother would not sign. On turning 18 in October, he was drafted into the Army Air Corps and placed in the Aviation Program. The Cadet Program was canceled so he was assigned to Gunnery School in Kingman, Arizona. He went to several bases in the U.S. for more training before being shipped overseas. His group left New Hampshire and went through Goose Bay, Newfoundland, and Labrador, Iceland, and landed in Wales. From there, he was sent to a base in Lavenham, England, north of London near the town of Sudbury.

He flew in a B-17 Flying Fortress as the top turret gunner and completed 35 missions which was almost unheard of! His first mission was over Berlin. One mission was to an oil refinery in Misburg, Germany. On one mission the plane received over 100 holes and once they flew through 40 miles of flak to reach the target. At one time his plane was grounded behind the front lines that turned out to be the Battle of the Bulge. He attained the rank of Staff Sergeant and was awarded the Air Medal and Bronze Star. He received his discharge at Scott Field, Illinois. On the GI Bill, he was able to attend the University of Missouri and Mortuary School between the years of 1945 and 1951, graduating from M.U. in 1951. He was an assistant to the president of Aircrafts Parts Plants for British planes in Arkansas and Illinois.

He married his wife, Leola, in 1949, and they had six children. His wife is deceased. He worked at the Marshall and Higginsville Habilitation Centers in administration. He has been a substitute teacher.

The members of the Arrow Rock Chapter, NSDAR are proud to nominate Richard V. Drummond as Patriot of the Month and extend gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our nation.