

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



## Patriot of the Month

December 2014



Windle D. McPheeters

*Sponsored by:*

Prairie Chapter



Windle was inducted into the United States Army in 1952 in Kansas City, Missouri. His basic training was in infantry heavy weapons for sixteen weeks in Fort Riley, Kansas.

On Christmas Hill, the night before the Armistice was signed, July 27, 1953, Windle was on border patrol. The day had been a long one filled with constant back and forth exchanges of fire. The forces would fire, then the enemy would retreat into caves. Then they would come out of the caves to return fire. The return fire from the enemy was constant. A mortar shell made a direct hit upon Windle's hill. Windle and several others were hit. Medics were able to reach them to give them first aid. They were able to get them into a jeep and transported back to a field hospital.

Even now Windle cannot remember how many of his fellow soldiers were hit. The next week or so remains a blur. His injuries were several: shoulder, stomach, and leg. He slowly started regaining awareness and was evacuated to Japan where he spent the next three months in slow recovery. Next, he was assigned to the 16 Corp in Japan where he worked as a company clerk for the rest of his service. He was discharged on September 30, 1954, at Ft. Collins, Colorado. Even now he carries fragments of shells in his shoulder. When his shoulder aches, he remembers that hill far away in Korea.

His medals and awards/citations include: Purple Heart, Korean Service Medal with one bronze service star, Good Conduct Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, National Defense Service Medal, and the UN Service Medal.

Windle worked for American Can Company for forty years. He and his wife, Shirley, are active in their church and community, enjoy their many friends, and helping neighbors. He has a lifetime membership in the V.F.W.

The Prairie Chapter DAR is proud to honor Windle D. McPheeters as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his service to our nation.