

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



Patriot of the Month

December 2014



Dean VonAllmen

Sponsored by:

Ozark Spring Chapter



In June of 1944, Dean VonAllmen enlisted in the United States Army at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri, in the combat infantry. He saw his first combat action in December 1944 in France in the Battle of the Bulge. He was assigned to the 3rd Army under the command of General George S. Patton. There was constant mortar and machine gun fire. He also suffered from frost bite while spending fourteen days in a fox hole. Dean said that none of the soldiers wanted awards or medals. All they wanted was to keep moving and go home alive. He received a combat infantry badge and three additional combat stars while serving in different areas of Germany.

Following the war, Dean was selected to guard Germans being tried for war crimes at Nuremberg. All the guards were selected because they were exactly six feet tall. Nuremberg in Bavaria was selected for the trials because the Palace of Justice was relatively intact after the war and included a large prison area. It was here that Dean guarded and escorted prisoners to their trials.

Following the war, Dean returned to Alton, Missouri, where he bought and sold feeder pigs by the thousands for over eight years. He saved up enough money to pursue his love of building. He invested about \$2,200 in his first house. When he sold it, he continued to build more homes. It wasn't long before he had a waiting list.

Dean has two sons and one daughter. He has always been a supporter of community activities and his church. He served as a Howell County commissioner in the mid 1970s. Dean helped in organizing and establishing the Heart of the Ozarks Blue Grass Association. He regularly enjoys playing his fiddle with the Sunnyside Up band at the senior citizens center, nursing and retirement homes. He says, "To me, fiddles are like people's voices, some are sweet and some are . . . well."

The Daughters of the Ozark Spring Chapter DAR are proud to nominate Dean VonAllmen as Patriot of the Month and extend gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our nation.