

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



Patriot of the Month

July 2015



Dr. Harwood N. Sturtevant, MD

Sponsored by:

Rachel Donelson Chapter



Harwood Northmore Sturtevant grew up in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. In 1942, as a freshman on scholarship at Carlton College in Minnesota, he realized his family could not afford for him to continue. He enrolled in a program offered by the U.S. Navy, which promised to pay for his college expenses, including medical school, if he would agree to serve in the military as a flight surgeon. He transferred to Notre Dame to complete his undergraduate work. By 1946, he was stationed in Munich, where U.S. forces occupied southern Germany.

In 1947, Harwood was sent to St. Louis University Medical School, where he majored in obstetrics. He was offered advancement in rank if he would transfer to the newly created U.S. Air Force. He transferred, first to the U.S. Army, and after one week, to the U.S. Air Force as a captain.

His duty stations included Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Berea College, Kentucky; presenting professor at Baylor University, Texas; and the military hospital in Tucson, Arizona. While stationed in French Morocco in 1951, he discovered his medical passion when he was asked to be a radiologist. After training in that field, he served at the military hospital in San Antonio, Texas, until his retirement in 1960. By the end of his military career, Harwood had achieved the rank of Lt. Colonel and earned campaign ribbons for the southern German and North African campaigns, along with his Flight Wings.

While at St. Louis University Medical School, Harwood met and married Mary Lawrence Lampe. She was the daughter of a Presbyterian minister who was a missionary to Korea for over 40 years. The couple had five children when Harwood retired. They came to Springfield, Missouri, where Harwood was employed as a radiologist at St. John's Hospital. He was Board Certified in OB/GYN, Pulmonary Diseases and Radiology. Harwood was a member of the American Medical Association and the American Radiology Association. He eventually became Chief of Staff at St. John's in the 70s, before retiring in the 80s.

Retirement allowed Harwood and Mary to volunteer. They completed a mission trip to Mexico, two trips to China, and a trip to Korea, where Harwood taught medicine. He also volunteered at the free clinic at The Kitchen, a Catholic outreach on Commercial Street in Springfield, Missouri.

Harwood and Mary served not only where the military stationed them, but where God offered opportunities. In addition to innumerable church positions, Harwood, an Eagle Scout, served as a Boy Scout leader for many years. He and Mary are charter members of All Saints Anglican Church in Springfield. They have 12 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

The Rachel Donelson Chapter DAR is honored to nominate Dr. Harwood Northmore Sturtevant, MD for Patriot of the Month.

