

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



Patriot of the Month

October 2015



Phillip Joe Smith

Sponsored by:

Hannah Hull Chapter



Phillip Joe Smith served in the U.S. Navy from January 25, 1971, until he was honorably discharged on December 15, 1974. He completed his training at the Naval Training Station in Great Lakes, Illinois. He then attended Radar A School and was assigned to the USS Vega (AF-59) which was home ported in San Francisco, California, when assigned to the Third Fleet and to Subic Bay, Philippine, when assigned to the Seventh Fleet. Joe completed two tours in Vietnam and was part of the Task Force 77.7 during the 1973 Yom Kippur War in the Gulf of Oman. He was promoted in 1974, to Assistant to the Combat Information Officer on board the USS Vega with the rank of OS2, and his collateral duties were Officer of the Deck in port and Junior Officer of the Deck (coning officer) underway.

Joe was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze stars, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal (with device -60), Meritorious Unit Commendation, Armed Forces Expeditionary, and Good Conduct Medal (1st award).

After leaving the Navy, Joe settled in Brookfield, Missouri, to be closer to family. He worked eight months as an emergency loan supervisor for FHA. He then accepted a position with United Missouri Bank and was employed with them for over 38 years, retiring as Community Bank President of UMB Brookfield and Milan in 2014. Joe also serves as a pastor at Zion United Methodist Church for the past thirteen years. He volunteers at the local food pantry, Pershing Memorial Hospital, and Brookfield Public Library. He also volunteers as a judge for parliamentary procedure competitions and serves as an Advisory Director UMB Bank Brookfield/Milan, Director Linn County Health Department, Director Camp Jo-ota Methodist Association, and as a chairman of the District Finance Committee United Methodist Church.

Joe has two daughters, three step children, and nine grandchildren. He and his wife, Gina, enjoy residence on their farm.

He believes that his life centers around three things: first, being a Christian; second, being a patriot of this great nation; third, using retirement to give back to those less fortunate.

The Daughters of the Hannah Hull Chapter DAR are proud to nominate Phillip Joe Smith as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our nation.