

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



Patriot of the Month

March 2016



Geraldine Smith

Sponsored by:

Webster Groves Chapter



The Webster Groves Chapter DAR is proud to nominate Geraldine Smith as Patriot of the Month. Geraldine has been a member of the Webster Groves Chapter DAR since 1975. She served in the U.S. Army as a staff sergeant during World War II. Her medals include: Good Conduct Medal, Victory Medal, European Theater Army of Occupation Medal

Geraldine was honorably discharged in Houston, Texas, 1951; however, she never ended her service to the military. She is the daughter of a veteran, wife of a retired veteran, and mother of a female veteran. The mother of seven daughters, one a LTC, VC in the U.S. Air Force and Army for twenty-two years, retired. One daughter is a federal prosecutor, one a missionary, and another a polo player. Her other daughters are gainfully employed and are involved in veterans' activities with their mother.

Geraldine has a cheery personality, is a hard worker, and always ready to give a hand. For example, when the Afghanistan conflict began, she contacted a chaplain at a base in Afghanistan to check on acceptable and needed items. She organized our chapter and every month we sent packages to the chaplain to distribute to the troops. Geraldine had the names and birthdates of each soldier, and we sent cards and letters. Her daughter visited the American hospitals in Germany, where our wounded were airlifted for treatment and contacted her mother and asked for something to help occupy them. Geraldine promptly went to a toy store and got a variety of games such as yo-yos and paddle balls which were a big hit. Soldiers had tournaments from their wheelchairs. Jacks and tidily winks were great for those confined to bed as they could do those on their trays. Coloring books and crayons were welcomed. Movies and paperback books were plentiful there, but the toys were a real treat.

Geraldine did not forget the veterans at home. She adopted fifteen members from a nursing home that had no families. Their names were given to our DAR members, and Geraldine, daughters, and DAR members would see that they had visitors and gifts. This last year she organized Cardinals baseball caps for five residents so they could wear them on opening day. A letter was received from the veterans home coordinator stating it was a "welcome surprise."

In addition to her service to our veterans, Geraldine is very involved with historic preservation projects, and she has devotedly dedicated her time to community improvements and interests. She is a lifetime member of the American Legion. She is also a member of the Magna Charter Dames, since 1990. She is a wealth of great ideas, and her age of ninety-one does not slow her down. Geraldine is a ray of sunshine wherever she goes.

The Daughters of the Webster Groves Chapter DAR are proud to nominate Geraldine Smith as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for her patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.