

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



Patriot of the Month

April 2016



C. Bruce Cornett

Sponsored by:

Columbian Chapter



Bruce earned his commission in the U.S. Air Force upon graduation from the University of Missouri with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science. He entered active duty at Vance Air Force Base, Enid, Oklahoma, for pilot training. Other bases during the early months of his career took him to Dyess AFB, Texas, and Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, at Hurlburt Field for Viet Nam training. As a forward air controller at Pleiku AB Vietnam, he flew a single engine aircraft guiding the bombers and other aircraft to targets.

He earned the Viet Nam Campaign Medal, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, Air Medal with Clusters and the Distinguished Flying Cross while in service to his country. He ended his Air Force career as an instructor pilot at Hurlburt Field, Florida.

After his military career, he earned a Master's Degree in Government from Southern Illinois University while teaching junior high school social studies.

He has over fifteen years of executive level experience in Missouri State government and has been a constant participant in politics on the state and local level.

He has a deep love and appreciation for family. The stories of grandparents and family history are often repeated at gatherings large and small. This summer, at the Bethel Church in Mercer County, he and his sister dedicated a flag pole in memory of their parents. And the flag, with solar lighting, will be flown day and night.

Bruce has three daughters and seven grandchildren. He and his wife Mary Jo enjoy Cardinal baseball, Missouri Tiger football and basketball and spend most of their summer days watching grandsons and granddaughters participate in athletics. They have spent winters in Costa Rica and Florida and as a student of history, enjoyed time spent in England. The stories our veterans can tell is an education in itself.

Melva Ann Cornett Anderson and the Daughters of the Columbian Chapter DAR are proud to nominate C. Bruce Cornett as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.