

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors

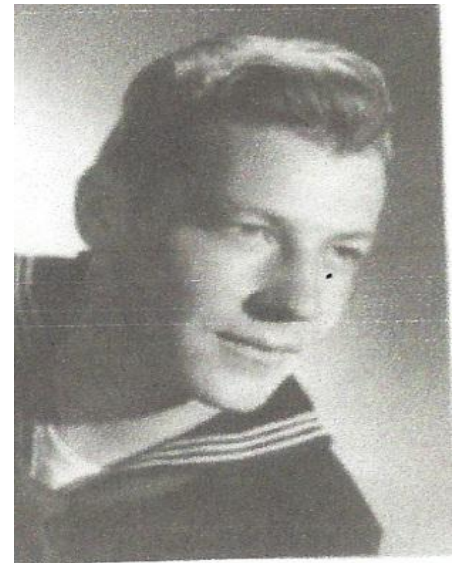


Patriot of the Month
February 2017



Harley D. Faddis United States Navy

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Chapter



Harley attended school in California where he enlisted in the United States Navy in November 1950. After boot camp in San Diego, California, he was assigned to the *USS Bon Homme Richard (CVA-31) Aircraft Carrier*. His ship sailed to Korea and into the Sea of Japan. He served in this area for six months with the exception of when the ship went into a port in Japan for two weeks of rest and relaxation. While out in the Sea of Japan, airplanes were launched off the carrier on bombing missions going into the country of Korea. At the end of six months his ship returned to San Diego. The crew remained there for one year.

He was reassigned to the *USS Oriskany (CV-34)* returning to the Sea of Japan for another six months assignment. They carried all new planes this time. An incident occurred during this second tour when a bomb would not release and the pilot was given orders to land the plane on the flight deck anyway. When the plane landed the bomb came loose and exploded, killing one and injuring several others. The plane was pushed overboard immediately. Harley states only a few pilots were lost in flight. During this second six month tour, rest and relaxation was in Hong Kong, China. At the end of the six months, the ship returned to San Diego, California, where Harley remained for six months. He was then transferred to Naval Air Station Point Mugu, California, where he finished his tour of duty working on airplanes. He was discharged in September, 1954, as an Airman in the Naval Air Forces. Harley states he enjoyed his time in the Navy.

Harley received the following medals:

- Korean Service Medal
- Navy Occupation Service Medal
- United Nations Service Medal
- China Service Medal,

National Defense Service Medal.

After his discharged, Harley returned to San Jose, California. He married Thelma and had eight children. They have 30 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and 15 great-great-grandchildren.

Harley has worked at several aircraft plants. One of the plants made helicopters. He also worked at a can company and a concrete plant. He retired in 1995 at the age of 65 and moved to Missouri as he had children living here.

Harley enjoys listening to church services on TV and occasionally attends his local Baptist Church and Southern Randolph Christian Chapel. He enjoys wood-working, and tending to bees as he has two hives.

Armstrong Daughters are proud to honor Harley D. Faddis as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism, dedication, and service to our great nation.