

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly Honor



Patriot of the Month

October 2017



John Mack
Ellis

United States Naval Reserve

Sponsored by:
Hannibal Heritage
Chapter



John Mack was raised on his great-grandparents' family farm. He attended a country school and graduated from high school there. He earned an Associates of Arts degree from his local Community College and then his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from the University of Missouri.

His account of his military service is as follows: "The standard program for the Naval Reserve was to drill every Monday night for a year. Also during that year, we attended boot camp at Great Lakes, Illinois, and took a training cruise at Norfolk, Virginia. After a year of Monday night drilling, I was then issued active duty orders to the *USS Leonard F. Mason (DD-852)* which was on the gun line in the Gulf of Tonkin, Vietnam. From 15 October 1970 until September 1971, I served aboard the *Mason* in the Republic of Vietnam.

After returning to the states and spending time in my home town on leave, I returned to San Diego to prepare for another Western Pacific cruise to Vietnam. My father's heart attack short-circuited that plan. I was then re-assigned to work as a Mast Yeoman at the Transient Personnel Unit at Great Lakes, Illinois, Naval Station. In August 1972 I was discharged to an inactive reserve status and in August 1976 I received an honorable discharge from the service." He received the Vietnam Service Medal, the National Defense Medal, and a Letter of Accommodation for meritorious service as Mast Yeoman while at Great Lakes, Illinois.

John Mack's professional career included 27 years with the Missouri Department of Conservation (5 years as a fisheries biologist, 10 years as a wildlife land management biologist, and 12 years as a private lands services wildlife biologist). He then worked 10 years for the Natural Resources Conservation Service as a soil conservationist/ wildlife biologist.

John Mack has served in the Lions Club and on the Ralls County Extension Council. He joined church in 1961 and has served in various capacities in several churches throughout his life. He is currently a member of Holy Family Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. He has been married for 44 years to his wife Carolyn. They have two children and two grandchildren.

Hannibal Heritage Daughters are very proud to honor and recognize John Mack Ellis as Patriot of the Month for his patriotic and dedicated service to our great nation.