

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors

## Patriot of the Month



## November 2017



# Sam W. Raber

## United States Army

Sponsored by:  
Gilead Rupe  
Chapter



Sam was drafted into the United States Army in June, 1953, and sent to Fort Riley, Kansas, for 16 weeks Infantry Basic Training. He was then assigned to Company C, 505<sup>th</sup> Regiment, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He volunteered for airborne training and attended Parachute Jump School at Fort Benning, Georgia. He remained in Company C at Fort Bragg until being separated from active duty in 1955, for completion of his eight year military obligation.

From active duty, he was assigned to the United States Army Reserve. In 1960, he joined the 635<sup>th</sup> Aviation Company, Warrensburg, Missouri. In 1964, he transferred to the 12<sup>th</sup> Special Forces unit in Kansas City, Kansas.

Sam went on active duty in May 1967, with the Army, where he was assigned as a Platoon Sergeant to B Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade then took training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In October 1967, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion deployed to Vietnam. After seven months with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, he was transferred to Military Assistance Command, Vietnam as an Infantry Heavy Weapons Advisor on a Mobile Advisor team. He extended his tour in Vietnam for six months and through a lucky break was assigned temporary duty for the last five and one-half months to Clark Airbase, Philippines.

Upon release from active duty, Sam returned to the Special Forces Reserve Unit later becoming the Command Sergeant Major of the Battalion. He retired from the Army Reserve in May 1993 with the rank of Command Sergeant Major.

A partial list of Sam's military awards and decorations include: Combat Infantry Badge; Bronze Star Medal; Purple Heart; Meritorious Service Medal; Air Medal; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Army Commendation Medal w/V; Army Good Conduct Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Sam was very active in his civilian career working almost 40 years in engineering and sales. During his time in sales, he traveled extensively in the United States and several foreign countries to create interest in the services and products provided by his employer's company. He retired in 1996.

He substitute taught in his local schools, is a very active member of his church, and served on his local school board. He has also served on his City Council, Board of Public Works, and the Planning and Zoning Commission as well as other government committees and county committees. He is a member of several organizations which include American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Optimist Club, Military Order of the Purple Heart, American Veterans, Sons of the American Revolution and the Forty and Eight.

Sam and his wife, Doris, have been married over 40 years and between them they have seven children and several grandchildren and great grandchildren. He has three sisters and one brother who died in Vietnam.

Sam stated his life has been most interesting and although there are a few things he would have approached differently, overall it has been most satisfying. It would take reams of paper to document his many interesting experiences.

Gilead Rupe Daughters are very proud to honor and recognize Sam W. Raber as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotism and dedicated service to our great nation.