

Since 2005, MSSDAR has honored veterans and active-duty military members through the "Patriot of the Month" (POM) program which highlights their part in keeping our nation free. A tradition to honor and recognize those who have served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces. Your chapter can uphold this tradition by nominating a living veteran or active-duty service member for the MSSDAR "Patriot of the Month."

We are inviting chapters to continue this tradition by submitting narratives based on interviews of local veterans and active duty military personnel for "Patriot of the Month." These narratives will be published monthly on the MSSDAR public website. See the Patriot Submission Form on how to submit your "Patriot of the Month."

▼ POM Fact! In 2023, 36 chapters together submitted 83 nominations for "Patriot of the Month." Imagine honoring 204 Patriots each year if all 102 chapters submitted two Patriots per year. It's not too late for 2024!

## **PURPLE HEART PATRIOTS**

"Behind every heart is a hero. Behind every hero is their story. Behind every story reveals what they endured for you, for us, for everyone to live freely."

... Angels from the Battlefield



The Purple Heart Medal is the oldest and one of the most recognized and respected medals awarded to those who have been wounded or killed in combat.

During the Parks Administration, we will be honoring the service and sacrifice of those men and women who have been wounded or killed in action; known to us as "**Purple Heart Patriots**." Without them, this nation would not be free and millions of people from around the world would not have the ability to live in freedom.

Similar to the "Patriot of the Month" program, the "Purple Heart Patriots" program will focus on the individual for their heroic actions for which they were awarded the Purple Heart Medal. Their stories, told in their own words or the words of a family member, will be published monthly on the MSSDAR public website. We are planning to honor our Purple Heart Patriots with a ceremony in August 2025. More information will be provided at a later date.

We are inviting chapters to collect and share the stories of "Purple Heart Patriots" in their areas. Chapters may also submit the names of previously submitted "Patriot of the Month" honorees who were awarded the Purple Heart Medal for the "Purple Heart Wall of Honor." Also, please let this chair know if your charter city is a "Purple Heart City" and listed on the "Purple Heart Trail." Instructions for submitting a "Purple Heart Patriot" can be found on the Patriot Submission Form.

For more information about either program, please contact Pat Hale by email at pom@mssdar.org or by phone at 573-821-3588.

When completed, email your submissions to <a href="mailto:pom@mssdar.org">pom@mssdar.org</a> or by mail to Pat Hale, State Chair, POM, 1684 Kohrman Road, Owensville, MO 65066