



**Missouri State Society
Daughters of the American
Revolution**

PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

Wilbur Wright

Wilbur Wright graduated from Craig High School on May 10, 1938. He joined the US Navy the next day. After initial training in San Diego, CA, he was assigned to the USS Oglala where he remained until the attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941. The USS Oglala was the first ship sunk in the attack. He then remained in the Pacific theater for six years and one month during which he had only fifteen days leave. During that time, he supervised numerous lunch wagons, which provided food for thousands of the military and shipyard personnel at Pearl Harbor. In October of 1944, he was assigned to the Naval Air Station at Olathe, KS and was in charge of the security department. He was discharged in September 1945.

After his discharge, he married his high school sweetheart, Evonne Strickler, and moved to Denver, CO where he became a master plumber. In 1964, he moved back to his home area in MO, where he farmed and operated a Ford tractor business.

Wilbur, who is now 85 years old, plays golf and enjoys all sports. He and Evonne, who will soon celebrate sixty wonderful years of married life, have two children, four grandchildren and a great granddaughter. The couple has traveled extensively throughout the world.

Wilbur is a life member of the Pearl Harbor Survivor Association. For many years, he has shared his Pearl Harbor experience with area history students. He was a member of the Hawaii Masonic Lodge and Scottish Rite for over fifty years. He is a member of the Fairfax Christian Church.

Wilbur's wife Evonne, and the William White Chapter proudly nominate Wilbur Wright for Patriot of the Month.





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MSSDAR
May 1, 2005