

The Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly "Spotlights" our May 2011
Patriot of the Month



James P. "Pat" McGinnis

Sponsored by:

**Armstrong Chapter
Armstrong, Missouri**



James P. "Pat" McGinnis graduated from Huntsville High School in 1939 and attended the University of Missouri at Columbia until he was drafted into the United States Army in December 1942. He received his basic training at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana. In June 1943, he was reassigned into the United States Army Air Force and went to Miami Beach, Florida for Air Force basic training.

His line of assignments after reassignment were Canisius College, Buffalo, New York for college training detachments, Nashville, Tennessee for classification, and then Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Alabama for pre-flight. He went to Gunnery School, Laredo, Texas and Roswell, New Mexico. Pat was then reassigned to Midland, Texas Army Air Force for Bombardier School. Further assignments were to Springfield, Massachusetts, Charleston, South Carolina, and Monroe, Louisiana. His last tour of duty was at Ellington Field in Houston, Texas where he was discharged in November 1945 as a 2nd Lieutenant.

After Pat was discharged from the Army Air Force, he went back to college at the University of Missouri, where he graduated in January 1948 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture. He went to work for the Missouri Department of

Agriculture as Director of the Feed Division. Pat entered the School of Veterinary Medicine in the fall of 1951 and graduated in May 1955 with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree from Missouri University. He practiced veterinary medicine for twenty-five years. Then he went back to work for the State of Missouri as an Assistant State Veterinarian for ten years before retiring in 1989.

Pat and Lyla Jean Thomas married in December 1949 and had two children. He is a member of the Methodist church, Masonic Lodge, and the Shriners. He is also a member of the Missouri Veterinary Medical Association and his local American Legion.