

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly "Spotlights" our January 2012
Patriot of the Month



Vincent Baker

Sponsored by:

**Blue Springs Chapter
Blue Springs, Missouri**



Vincent Baker has lived an extraordinary life, much of it in roles of service to our country and service to others which began with his early entry into the National Guard in 1939. His enlistment with the National Guard turned into active duty in the United States Army and the World War II conflict in Europe.

Vincent attended Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma in March 1943 and graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant. He landed on Omaha Beach, France, June 6, 1944 with the 58th Armored Field Artillery Battalion serving as Forward Artillery Officer through five major campaigns in the European Theatre Operation. He directed fire for artillery, worked with the infantry, rifle companies, med tank commanders, and Calvary units in front line areas. He received a battlefield promotion to 1st Lieutenant.

Vincent's awards, medals, and citations include:

- Bronze Star w/V
- Purple Heart w/cluster
- 5 Bronze Campaign Stars
- Bronze Medal
- European Theatre Ribbon for campaigns in Normandy, France, Rhineland, Ardennes, and Central Europe
- Cluster Bronze Star w/V (2nd)
- 1106th Combat Engineers Commendation – Special Mention

After the war, Vincent's career path took him from his role as an attorney to Missouri State Senator and Associate Circuit Judge, which included Senior Judge Service. In addition to his other positions, he served in the Army Reserve until he retired in 1981.

Vince and his wife, Fran, are the parents of four children, with two now deceased. They are the grandparents of two grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.