

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



**Morris Lee
Palmer**

Sponsored by:

**Margaret Miller
Chapter
Huntsville, Missouri**



Morris Lee Palmer was born August 19, 1921 in Fayette, Howard County, Missouri. He was the son of Robert Palmer and Eunice Atkins.

Morris was drafted into the United States Army on January 18, 1945 at Moberly, Missouri. He was sent to Camp Walters, Texas for basic training. After completing basic training, he was given a ten day leave to return home. Morris then traveled to San Diego, California where he caught the troop ship *USS Thurston (AP-77)*.

He sailed to the Philippines, where he was assigned to the 43rd Infantry Division. There was not a harbor port for the ship to get into to unload the troops. They climbed down a rope net into row boats to get to the shore. He served in Philippines until the surrender of Japan. After Japan surrendered, Morris was transferred to Japan where he served as a guard in the 1st Cavalry.

At first Morris noticed that few Japanese came out at night as they didn't know what to expect from the Americans. When they realized the American troops were not going to harm them, the streets were soon filled with people.

Morris sailed back to the United States on the *USNS Marine Adder (T-AP-193)*. He received his discharge on October 26, 1946 at Ft. Sheridan, Illinois.

Morris' medals, awards, and citations include:

- Asiatic Pacific Theatre Medal w/1 bronze star
- Philippine Liberation Ribbon w/1 bronze star
- Victory Medal
- Good Conduct Medal
- Army of Occupation Medal Japan
- Lapel button
- 2 Overseas Service Bars

Morris married Laveda "Sally" Reed on December 1941 at Huntsville, Missouri. After his discharge, he returned home to his wife and two children. He was happy to discover that his young wife had bought a ninety acre farm, an old milk cow, two sows, raised a large garden, and "took to farming." She had the farm totally paid for by the time Morris returned home. They are proud parents of three children and proud grandparents of several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Morris engaged in farming and business. He was the County Road Supervisor of Randolph County for seventeen years.

Now retired, Morris and Sally enjoy many hobbies, fishing, motorcycles, and cutting wood.