

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Patriot of the Month August 2013





Patricia Damewood

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Poplar Bluff Chapter

Patricia Damewood had one year to wait following high school graduation to reach the legal age for women to enter the military service. Patricia went to college until she was able to join. Her plan was to join the Marine Corps, but that would mean she would have to wait another year, as their policy was stricter than the Army. Patricia entered the Women's Army Corp (WAC's) in June 1954. Her Basic Training was at Ft. Lee, Virginia. She was in the last WAC class to graduate from that facility. She was sent to Ft. Sam, Houston, Texas, after graduation and entered training as a Medical Laboratory Technician at Brooke Army Medical Center. She attended sixteen weeks of intensive study for lab work and then on the job training. Her primary duties involved working in hematology, chemistry, and phlebotomy. She feels she was quite honored to serve in the nation's premier burn center.

Following her marriage to <u>Claude Damewood</u>, Patriot of the Month September 2010, and two years into her military career, Patricia decided to leave the service to be with her new husband who was stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas. Eighteen years later she finished college and has worked primarily in the specialty for which the military trained her. Patricia was honorably discharged from the WAC with the rank of Sp3. She received the Good Conduct Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

Patricia and her late husband Claude are the parents of three children. After the death of their daughter, Staff Sgt Stacy Haskins, USAF, they raised her son Nicholas who was <u>Patriot of the Month June, 2012</u>. Proud of her heritage in the service provided to the United States by her forbears for over two hundred years, Patricia is an active member of the Poplar Bluff Daughters of the American Revolution, and currently serves as Vice Regent and Parliamentarian.

Patricia is a member of the First United Methodist Church where she serves as Chair for the Nurture and Outreach Committee which serves the church body at times of bereavement. She is also serving a second term as Chair of her church circle. She is active in several art groups and the American Legion Auxiliary. She participates in demonstrations of spinning and weaving for the Ellisnore Pioneer Museum.

The Poplar Bluff Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution are proud to nominate Patricia Damewood as Patriot of the Month for her service to our country.