

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



John Stoeffler entered the Army in 1964 at Ft. Benning, Georgia. He attended the Infantry Officers Basic Course followed by Jump School at the Air Ground Operations at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. From there, John was sent to Korea where his assignments included infantry platoon leader, battalion anti-tank platoon leader, assistant S-3, and assistant S-4. John returned to the United States in 1965 to Ft. Dix, New Jersey, where he was rifle range officer and instructor, and company executive officer. Awards John earned while serving are his Parachute Wings, the Expert Infantry Badge, the American Defense Ribbon, and the Korean Defense Ribbon.

John and Linda Diane were married on July 9, 1966 and they have two children, Susan (deceased) and Laura. They have four grandchildren Haley, Kylie, and Lexie. After service, John went to work for General Electric's Lamp business division in Pennsylvania. He was transferred by GE to Oklahoma City in 1968 and then to St. Louis in 1971. John started his own business as a manufacturer's representative in 1983 and retired in 2003.

John was guest speaker in 2008 for the Missouri Daughters at the Cold Water Cemetery. After becoming acquainted with Missouri Daughters and our efforts to honor our military members, he conceived the idea of putting the picture of a deployed military parent on a pillow. John and his wife Linda have opened a nonprofit corporation called the Sweet Dreams Picture Pillow Project. Their address is <u>http://www.pillowprojectusa.com/</u>. They have produced thousands of pillows for children whose father or mother is on active duty and will be absent from their family for at least three months. The pillows are provided at no charge.

The Mary Hempstead Lisa Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution is pleased to honor John Stoeffler as Patriot of the Month for his service to our nation and for his continued dedication to our country and its active military families.