



**Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Patriot of the Month
December 2013**



William J. Sofka

Sponsored by

White Alloe Chapter

William J. Sofka (Bill) joined the Navy in October 1964. He went to Great Lakes Naval Training Center for boot camp and Gunners Mate School. Then he was assigned to the USS Nipmuc, ATF-157, which was stationed in Newport, RI.

The USS Nipmuc is a support ship and part of the Service Force, Atlantic Fleet. The Nipmuc was named after a southern New England Algonquian Indian Tribe. Her main function was salvage and recovery missions. In 1965 and 1966 she went to Cape Kennedy, Florida, to participate in capsule recovery for Gemini GT-3 and Gemini 11. On September 7, 1967 the Nipmuc departed Newport for an extended overseas deployment, joining the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean. Bill was

part of the deck force and was responsible for weapons, upkeep, and maintenance of the ship. He received an honorable discharge in November 1967 as a 3rd Class Gunners Mate.

After serving in the Navy, Bill went to his hometown of Chicago, Illinois, and began his civilian career in sales and service of medical equipment. He moved to Kansas City, Missouri, where he met Debbie, his wife to be. They were married in 1972, and moved to Denver.

The members of the White Alloe Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution are proud to nominate William J. Sofka as their Patriot of the Month, and thank him for his service to our country.