

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



## Patriot of the Month

January 2015



Lyle N. Larrew

*Sponsored by:*

Poplar Bluff Chapter



Mr. Lyle N. Larrew (Mike) was born near Colorado Springs, Colorado, on October 17, 1925. His parents had moved from Missouri to Colorado in 1920 in a covered wagon. After five years, they moved back to Missouri and farmed in Rombauer, Butler County, Missouri. Mr. Larrew's father passed away in 1937, leaving his mom with seven children. He and his siblings worked hard to help support the family. In April 1944, he was drafted into the Army. After basic training, he was trained as a rifleman and a plumber. In March 1945, he was sent to France and soon after to Germany where he served with the 343<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 86<sup>th</sup> Division. His unit was involved in destroying the ability of the Germans to cross rivers, thus hampering their advance. The 86<sup>th</sup> was known for frequent night patrols, seeking the enemy along rivers in Germany, including the Rhine. The 86<sup>th</sup> also worked with the Third, Fifth, and Seventh armies to spearhead the Danube attack. After victory was declared in Europe, he was sent to the Philippines to fight in the Pacific Theater. His ship was fifteen days from their destination when the Japanese surrendered and his unit was sent on to the Philippines where he became a supervisor of Japanese prisoners on a plumbing work detail. He was discharged at Jefferson Barracks on May 7, 1946.

His awards include: Combat Rifleman Badge, American Theater Ribbon, European, African and Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with one bronze star, Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon, WWII Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal and two overseas bars.

Upon being discharged from the Army he worked as a driver/delivery man for local businesses, including a milk route and a bread route. He was a driver for RSVP for twenty-one years. He is married to the former Connie Roseberry and is the father of two daughters, Linda and Twyla. Since his retirement he has continued to service his community. For the past fourteen years, Mr. Larrew has been a volunteer for Meals on Wheels. He is a member of the Poplar Bluff Second Baptist Church. Lyle credits his Lord, for a wonderful, healthy life. He was grateful for the opportunity to participate in the local Honor Tour along with his wife, Connie. He felt so honored to be treated like a hero by so many and to meet General Colin Powell and Senator Bob Dole and Mrs. Dole at the WWII Memorial.

The Daughters of the Poplar Bluff Chapter DAR are proud to nominate Lyle N. Larrew as Patriot of the Month and extend gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our nation.