

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



## Patriot of the Month

March 2015



Richard Lee Gunn

*Sponsored by:*

Armstrong Chapter



Richard graduated from Moberly High School in 1960 and attended Moberly Junior College for one semester before enlisting in the Navy on March 17, 1961. He received his Associate of Science Degree in Data Processing from Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas, in 1971.

Richard received boot camp at Great Lakes, Illinois, then attended Electrician Mate "A" School in Great Lakes. He was then sent for duty to Groton, Connecticut, then to Norfolk, Virginia. He then came home on leave and married Patricia Burris of Moberly on January 3, 1965, and went to Memphis, Tennessee, where he was stationed. Patricia joined him after graduating from high school in May 1965. After Memphis, Richard saw duty at Meridian, Mississippi; Corpus Christi, Texas; Quonset Point, Rhode Island; Guantanamo Bay Naval Air Station in Cuba, and Pensacola, Florida.

He was on the first naval destroyer, the USS Barry (DD-933), to intercept a Russian freighter carrying missiles to Cuba which they escorted out of the area. In 1976, he was named "Sailor of the Year" for the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida.

Richard received the Good Conduct Medal (5 awards), National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with Bronze Star for the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the Dominican Republic Uprising.

Richard retired off the USS Lexington (CV-16) at Pensacola, Florida, with the rank of ASC (E-7) on January 31, 1981. After retirement, Richard worked in restaurant management from 1981 until April 2006. He and his family left Pensacola and moved to Moberly in August 1985. Richard is currently working part-time. Richard and his wife have three daughters, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Richard and Patricia enjoy traveling throughout the United States. He is a member of the Lutheran Church.

The Daughters of the Armstrong Chapter DAR are proud to nominate Richard Lee Gunn as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.