

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



## Patriot of the Month

May 2016



*Charles B. Riley*

Sponsored by:

Armstrong Chapter



C.B. attended high school at the lower division of Soberly Junior College, then dropped out to enlist in the military during his senior year and later received his GED. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on October 20, 1954, and received basic training at Fort Bliss, Texas. In January 1955, he was sent to Aberdeen, Maryland, for AIT to become an Ammunition Storage Specialist. C.B. stated it was miserable weather in Maryland because all he saw was snow. In March 1955, he flew from Aberdeen, Maryland, to Korea where he was stationed at Shihung, Korea, with the 58th Ordnance Ammunition Company. He was later sent South of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) with the 7th Division, 17th Infantry Regiment and then transferred back to the 58th Ordnance for 3 months until he was rotated back to the U.S. in July 1956 by ship to Fort Lewis, Washington. He left Fort Lewis by train for Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, where he was assigned to the 18th Brigade Combat Engineers, C Company, a bridge building company. The engineers went on bridge building demonstrations and were at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, where they readied the camp for reserves coming in for training.

C.B. shared a humorous event that occurred when he was going through chemical, biological, and radiation training. The initials of this training were CBR. The soldiers were instructed when going through each phase to put their initials on the card they carried, so he wrote his initials which were CBR. The instructor made the remark about how ignorant some people could be by putting the initials of the training down instead of their own initials, then asked, "What is your name, Soldier?" C.B. replied, "Charles B. Riley."

C.B. served three years of active duty and was discharged at Fort Leonard Wood on October 19, 1957, with the rank of Specialist 4 and transferred into the Reserves for five years and was discharged on October 19, 1962. He received the Good Conduct Medal and the Korean Service Medal.

He married Georgia McCormick on December 24, 1956, and they had four children, eleven grandchildren, and fourteen great grandchildren. C.B. worked at various jobs with twenty-two years being with the City of Moberly. He retired in 1996 due to health reasons. He was licensed into the gospel ministry in 1985 and pastored at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church and Pleasant Woods Baptist Church. He is a member of North Park Baptist Church where he is an adult Sunday School teacher and serves at various churches as a supply pastor. He is a member of the American Legion and does Meals on Wheels at the Towers in Moberly.

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