

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors



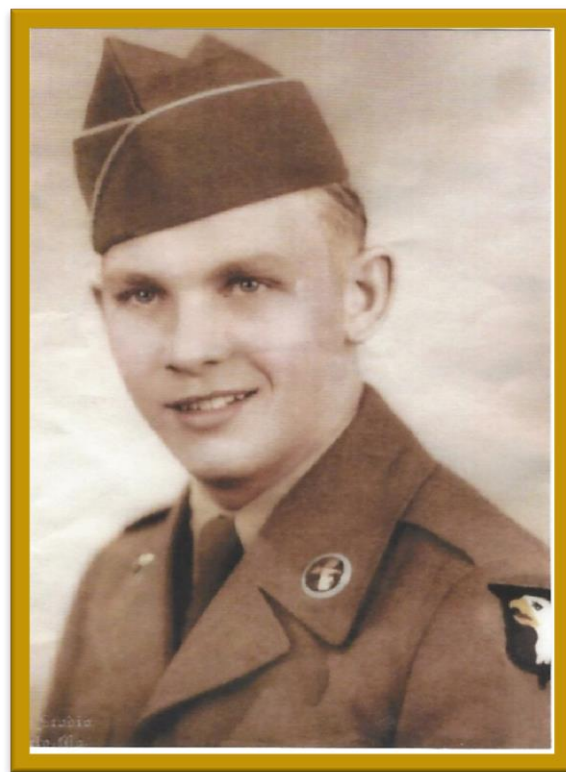
Patriot of the Month

August 2016



Galahn Kilgore United States Army

Sponsored by:
Armstrong Chapter



Galahn Kilgore graduated in 1952 from Huntsville, Missouri High School. He was registered with the draft, so checked about his draft status and was told he was number eight, meaning after seven others were drafted, he would be next. He checked with the Army recruiter and was given a test which indicated he was mechanically inclined and would be able to volunteer for the draft and after basic training he could attend a diesel mechanics school at Ft Riley, Kansas.

Galahn enlisted in the Army in August 1952 and went for basic training at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, with the 101st Airborne (Screaming Eagles), a Division of the Army. He had qualified to attend Officer Candidate School in Georgia, where he would have been commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant. None of this materialized as the conflict in Korea had progressed and there was a need for Infantry Soldiers there. He was shipped to Korea and served on the front lines as a gunner on a 60 MM mortar. He was stationed in Yangu, Korea above the 38th parallel in what is now North Korea, with the 45th Infantry Division. He was promoted from Corporal to Sergeant where he was over a 60 MM mortar squad.

Galahn was qualified to be a paratrooper, but never did jump as he was in the Infantry. After the truce was signed, he served as a Supply Sergeant for his unit until he returned to the United States to be discharged. He was honorably discharged at Camp Carson, Colorado, in August 1954.

He received the Good Conduct Medal, Combat Infantry Medal, Korea Citation (2) and several other medals, but cannot remember all of them.

After returning home, he married Vivian Nejdely of Huntsville in November 1954. They had six children, 17 grandchildren, and 23 great grandchildren.

Galahn worked at Orscheln Brake Lever as a Quality Engineer and retired from this position after 43 years. He is a member of the local First Baptist Church.

Armstrong Chapter Daughters extend their gratitude and appreciation to Galahn Kilgore for his service and commitment to our great nation.