

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month November 2016



Garvis Pollard United States Army

Sponsored by:
Mary Hempstead Lisa
Chapter



Garvis Pollard was raised on a farm in south Arkansas, where he attended first through twelfth grade at a rural community school. He continued his education at the University of Arkansas, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Education and later, after his military service, with a Master of Science. While attending the university, he joined the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army. It was during his time in the ROTC program that he became interested in military intelligence and was selected for that Army specialty. Garvis completed his Infantry Officer Basic Course at Fort Benning, Georgia, and his Army Security Agency Officer Basic Course at Fort Devens, Massachusetts. From there he was initially assigned as Executive Officer, HQ and Service Company, 509th Radio Research Group, Ton Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Republic of Vietnam. Further duty assignments for Group HQ included Assistant HQ Commandant and Officer-in-Charge, Transient Detachment.

Among many other duties during this time, Garvis helped support and distribute toys, clothing, and extra food from stateside donations to a local orphanage of 250 children. On Sundays, when delivering the donations, he enjoyed having the opportunity to play with the children.

After 12 months in and around Group HQ, he was reassigned as Platoon Leader, 1st Detachment, of the 330th Radio Research Company, where he served supporting the Post Commander at An Khe in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam where he served for six months. After 18 months, Captain Pollard was assigned for his last 12 months of active duty to the faculty at the United States Army Military Intelligence School, Fort Holabird, Maryland. Throughout his military career, he served as part of a specialized intelligence gathering group engaged in tactical and strategic operations.

Captain Pollard received two Army Commendation Medals, the Bronze Star, and three Unit Citations. When asked about experiences that were meaningful to him, Garvis stated that being responsible for the enemy

target acquisition for battle insertion of a battalion of the 173rd Airborne (Airmobile) Division was an important event for him. He also shared that hosting a high-level meeting of Lt. General William Peers and his 1st Field Force commanders in An Khe and meeting then Colonel George Patton III at a special intelligence briefing at the 509th Group Headquarters at Ton Son Nhut Air Base were memorable events.

For 30 years, Garvis was employed in the fields of science and technology working in both government and business. He transitioned into teaching high school science and history at an alternative school for seven years before retiring. Throughout his life, he has been involved with numerous organizations and has donated much of his time and expertise.

While training at Fort Devens near Boston, Massachusetts, his mother sent Garvis a clipped newspaper article and a picture from their local newspaper, telling him to find and date this girl. This lovely girl he found was Patricia, and they recently celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary.

Mary Hempstead Lisa Daughters are proud to recognize and honor Garvis Pollard as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism and dedication to our great nation.