

**Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
Proudly Honors**

**Patriot of the Month**



**July 2017**



**Larry Hendricks**

**United States Army**

**Sponsored by:  
Armstrong  
Chapter**



Larry Hendricks graduated high school in 1961. After graduation he worked at a local equipment company for four years where he learned how to weld. He was drafted into the United States Army in April 1965, and went to basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He did on the job training as a welder at Fort Lewis, Washington. After on the job training, he stayed at Ft. Lewis for almost a year before being sent to Vietnam with the Headquarters and Headquarters Company 4th Engineers Battalion 4th Infantry Division. They landed at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam in June 1966 and were there about eleven months. His company then moved to the central highlands, which was close to Pleiku.

One experience Larry had was when he and one other soldier were sent in a truck to the Cambodian border to do some welding on a bridge. The normal procedure was to go in a convoy since they were in hostile territory. Enroute to the bridge, the truck had a flat tire and the tire was changed in record time!

The Viet Cong would mine the roads, so Larry made a mine sweeper mounted on the front of a tank. The tank would go in front of the convoy with the sweeper rolling across the road and blowing up the mines. As the senior welder of the 4th Engineers Battalion, Larry was called upon to work long hours making repairs and modifications on various types of construction equipment.

Larry received an honorable discharge in March, 1967, at the United States Army Personnel Center, Oakland, California with the rank of E-5 – Sergeant and as an Engineer Mechanic. He flew out of Oakland, California to Kansas City, Missouri.

Larry received the following medals: Expert Rifle Badge, Vietnam Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Army Commendation Medal and the Presidential Unit Medal.

After returning home, Larry worked at Norfolk & Western Railroad for two years as a welders helper, then worked for Mid-America Pipeline for 25 years (5 years as a welder and 20 years as a technician), then four years for a metal building contractor. He retired in 2000 and returned to his home town and took care of his mother, until she passed away in 2012.

He has three sisters living and a brother who is deceased. Larry attends the Christian Church and is a member of the American Legion.

Armstrong Daughters are proud to honor and recognize Larry Hendricks as Patriot of the Month for his dedicated patriotism and service to our great nation.