

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

Patriot of the Month



January 2018



**Joan Boggess
VunCannon**

United States Army

**Sponsored by:
Independence Pioneers
Chapter**



Joan joined the United States Women's Army Corps (WAC) in Beckley, West Virginia, in November 1960 and was sent to WAC Headquarters at Fort McClellan, Alabama. She was selected as Honor Trainee after achieving the highest grades in the classes which included map reading, history of the WACs, best methods for surviving psychological and chemical warfare, and other important subjects. She was also good-naturedly singled out as "Bouncing Boggess" for her inability to keep time in marching. After two weeks into Clerical Training School, she was selected to be the secretary of the Headquarters Commandant, assisting in issuing Identification Cards to National Guard on reserve duty, helping organize blood drives, assisting in housing military personnel and many other varied duties. Joan was discharged in November, 1962, at Fort McClellan, Alabama.

Joan received a Good Conduct Medal. She said she felt a sense of accomplishment in handling her new experiences and situations. She was surprised and humbled when being treated for blisters on her feet caused from her new boots. She later learned the nurse who helped her was in the Bataan Death March.

Joan attended college on the GI Bill under Vietnam War Era service. Joan and her husband, Barry, have been married 54 years. They have one son and one daughter, four grandchildren, and two

great grandchildren. Barry served in the United States Army at Fort Lewis, Washington. Their church is a major part of their lives.

Joan worked as a Secretary for the Housing Authority of a local major city and later for the local University School of Nursing. For the last several years, she has assisted her husband in their trucking business, accounting and billing. She has painted many pictures over the years, including portraits of her parents and her in-laws. For over 25 years, she has painted originals as well as copies of other works.

Joan has assisted with the health care of her in-laws, which was more difficult by their living in a different state. Later, she assisted with her own mother's care. She now helps her husband supervise the care of a woman who is 95 years old. Her dedication to helping others is very inspiring to many. Joan and her granddaughter are members of the Independence Pioneers NSDAR Chapter.

Independence Pioneers Daughters are proud and honored to recognize Joan Boggess VunCannon as Patriot of the Month for her dedication, patriotism and service to our great nation.