

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month



March 2018



William L. Groth, Jr.

United States Army

Sponsored by:
St. Louis-Jefferson
Chapter

William was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the United States Army in June, 1955. He was with the Artillery service from September, 1955, until he was honorably discharged in April, 1964.

William's duty station was at the United States Army Pacific (USARPAC) Territory of Hawaii. USARPAC is the United States Army's largest Service Component command. William said, "While temporarily assigned to 89th Tank Battalion, we were just getting going in the morning. The first thing Tankers do is start the engines on tanks. They then usually place canned "C rations" on engine to warm. One morning, the "enemy" came around the bend and fired a blank at us. At the same time, a can of rations exploded as the can had not been opened to let out steam. Everyone dove to the ground as they thought the blank was live ammunition. All had a good laugh when they realized what had happened."

In civilian life William taught for two years in the Jefferson County School District from 1957 to 1959. Then he was a teacher, Education Super, at the Museum of Science and Natural History St. Louis, 1959 to 1981. While at the Museum, William co-hosted a local weekly TV show, called Operation Explore for three years. He directed an Original Research Program for high school students for thirteen years. Also he had a weekly Nature Program on a local radio station for five years. William served in the position of Vice President for Education, at the Midwest Museum Conference. Further he was a consultant for Lewis and Clark Museum in two locations.

He retired after being a Wildlife Biologist with the United States Army Corps of Engineers from 1982 to 1993. A highlight while at the Corps—William was in charge of Emergency Operations during the flood of 1993 and worked in Emergency Operations during other floods in this area.

William belongs to The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). He has held many positions including SAR Color Guard Commander, locally and now the Missouri State Commander. The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) are very grateful for the SAR Color Guard as they carry the colors in and out of DAR ceremonies, and the musket men shoot at many events. He always wears his white uniform.

William is also a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Company Military Historians, and member of his local chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America. He is a past President of the Kirkwood Garden Club. He has been a Board Member of Adjustment in Sunset Hills and a Board Member of his local Audubon Society. He is also a member of the Webster Groves Nature Study Society.

St. Louis-Jefferson Daughters are proud and honored to recognize William L. Groth, Jr. as Patriot of the Month for his dedicated patriotism and service to our great nation.