

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month



March 2018



Burton Mayfield

United States Navy

Sponsored by:
St. Louis-Jefferson
Chapter



In 1945, at age 18, Burton enlisted in the United States Navy during his first year at Washington University. After finishing his second semester, he went to the naval entry station in Great Lakes, Illinois. Now a Hospital Corpsman, he was sent to San Diego, California, and received additional training to be a medical technician. Burton was then assigned to a United States Naval Hospital in Key West, Florida, for active duty. He served as a male nurse and got into special duties – technical and surgical work. In 1946, he was transferred to Guam, as part of Command Island, and was stationed with the United States Marines.

Burton was called up from the Naval Reserve in 1951, to serve in the Korean conflict. He was stationed on an island in South Korea, based offshore in a small amphibious ship that had been converted into a lab. He worked on epidemic disease control, mainly typhus and dysentery.

After his World War II service, Burton was discharged in St. Louis, Missouri, through San Francisco, California, into the Naval Reserve. He was discharged from service in 1952, after serving in Korea. He served seven years, eight months, and 17 days. He received a United Nations Medal, a Navy Occupation Service Medal, two stars, and a Korean Service Medal. The Senate of the State of Missouri gave him a commendation for his wartime service in September, 2017.

Burton returned to college at Washington University between his World War II and Korean War service. He earned two degrees and went into business as a sales representative for a truck manufacturer. He then became an inside sales representative for a pharmaceutical company, where he worked for 28 years. He became a liaison with Drug Enforcement Administration Enforcement in the corporate division.

Burton was married 43 years before being widowed. He has two sons and four grandchildren. Burton has been an active Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) member for over 70 years. He joined SAR right after his World War II service. He has served as Chapter and State President along with other positions. He has been a member of the Vestry of his church, as well as a Junior and Senior Warden in the church administration. In October, 2017, Burton went on an Honor Flight to tour the World War II, Korean, and many other memorials in Washington DC.

Burton continues to live an active, fascinating life. In his home office, over 100 accurately placed pushpins on a map indicate extensive travel to all parts of the world. He has been a lifelong patriot who has blessed our country with his active service, veteran participation, and in his civilian life/citizen participation.

St. Louis-Jefferson Daughters are very proud and honored to recognize Burton Mayfield as Patriot of the Month for his dedicated patriotism and service to our great nation.