

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

December 2019



**Donald I. Soper**

**United States Navy**

Sponsored by:  
Platte Purchase  
Chapter



Donald Soper enlisted in the United States Navy in January 1951. Following basic training at Great Lakes Naval Training Station, IL, Donald was assigned to USS *Henrico* (APA 45), a troop transport, as a storekeeper. During battle stations, Donald was a gunner, for which he received a commendation for accuracy from the ship's captain. He was honorably discharged in November 1953.

Donald fondly remembers organizing a ship's party for an orphanage of Korean children. Each was given a small box with hygiene supplies and a toy and each child hugged their box during the entire party. Their faces lit up with the first taste of ice cream.

In 1972, Donald and his wife Betty founded the USS *Henrico* (APA 45) Reunion Association, hosting reunions every other year for 40 years. They owned a resort near Platte City, several motels and Donald also worked as a ground and building developer with his son. He is a member of his local VFW post.

Platte Purchase Daughters are very proud of Donald Soper and honored to recognize him as Patriot of the Month for his dedicated patriotic service to his community and our great nation.