

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month



January 2021

Daniel R. Ackerson **United States Air Force** **United States Air Force Reserve**



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Chapter

Dan Ackerson started his service in the military on May of 1987 when he enlisted in the US Air Force. He completed his boot camp at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. After a brief visit home he reported to his duty station at Whiteman Air Force Base, Johnson County, Missouri.

He spent four years at Whiteman as a base photographer and was the NCOIC for the graphics lab. In this capacity he was given a top secret clearance with SIOP attachment where he assisted the department and the base commander in preparing the base and the Air Force for the B2 bomber to be stationed at Whiteman. During this time he took photographs of the then sitting President George Bush who visited Whiteman. He was also an integral part of instituting briefings that were sent to the Pentagon in regards to the B2 Bomber.

At the beginning of Dessert Shield/Dessert Storm he had volunteered to go to Iraq but was denied by the base commander because he was the unit training officer in charge of maintaining readiness of all unit personnel.

After his years in active duty, he enlisted in the Air Force Reserves for an additional two years. He was stationed at Richard Gebaur Air Force Base in Belton, MO. Here his job was loadmaster Air Cargo. His duties were to load C130s, C141s and C5s with the cargo necessary to go overseas and aid our military in the fight against Iraq.

For his service he received the National Defense medal, Air Force Reserve ribbon, Good Conduct medal, Accommodation medal, Marksmanship ribbon with device and star, Non Commissioned Officer academy ribbon, Outstanding Unit award ribbon, Outstanding Detachment Ribbon and the Longevity Service Award.

He served his country proudly with a long history of ancestors and in-laws having served before him. Now his son is carrying on the tradition of serving in the United States Navy. Since his time in the service Dan has held positions in law enforcement for many years with some dedicated to a local Indian tribe as their Chief of Police. He also worked for the Social Security Administration. His jobs have always focused on public service. However, his first job after the military was with a local hometown business as their graphic artist, this is where he met his wife, Denise.

Dan and Denise have been married for 28 years and have raised two children. He is retired and enjoys woodworking and antiquing hobbies. He and his family attend a local church where he has served as a Deacon, an assistant to the pastor as the building site supervisor after the church was destroyed by a tornado. He is currently in the praise and worship team and plays the trombone.

Neosho Daughters are proud to honor and recognize Daniel R. Ackerson as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism and invaluable service to our great nation.