

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month

May 2021



Jacqueline VanMeter

United States Army Nurse Corps

Sponsored by:
Sarah Lewis Boone
Chapter



Jacque, whose father was a career Army officer, entered the Army Student Nurse Corps in 1968. Jacquie's brother served as well. This made her decision an expected one, and it was what she wanted. The military program assisted with college expenses and obligation was for two years. With much schooling behind her, on Dec. 5, 1968, she was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. This became her date of rank.

After graduation and state boards she was employed at her hometown hospital awaiting orders. She was assigned to a Jan. 1969 Basic Officers Course at the Medical Field Service School, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas; a six-week course designed to familiarize her with Army protocols, drill and command, map reading, specific medical documentation, nuclear, biological and chemical warfare, burn treatment therapies and emergency medical procedures.

Her first hospital assignment was to Valley Forge Army Hospital, Phoenixville, PA. She was the assistant head nurse on the Neurosurgical floor. In August 1969 she was assigned to the Republic of Vietnam and reported to the 67th Evacuation Hospital, Qui Noh'n. There, she was the assistant head nurse on the Surgical ICU Ward.

Upon completion of her year's tour in Vietnam she was assigned to Cutler Army Hospital, Fort Devens, MA as head nurse on a surgical ICU Ward. Next she was assigned to a Pediatric/Well Baby/Family Immunization Tri Clinic.

In 1972, because her husband was selected to graduate school, she transferred her commitment from active duty to Reserves. She spent 10 years in the Reserves. In the Reserves she became head nurse of Receiving and Emergency; officer in charge of training for a component of 100 personnel; attaining the rank of Major and the position of Chief Nurse of an Evacuation Hospital.

She was awarded the following: Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service; Army Commendation Medal; Reserve Component Achievement medal with cluster; National Defense Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Army Service Ribbon; RVN Campaign Medal and the Army Achievement Certificate.

Jacquie's most satisfying experiences occurred during her time in Vietnam where she was such an integral part of a closely knit team. Being there, also afforded her the opportunity for travel. Hong Kong was one of the highlights.

Her father advised her never to forget the value of her non-commissioned officers. This advice proved instrumental in providing for a unified team effort.

As a civilian, she worked ICU. Then she taught at a University in their Maternal/Child Care division and a vocational technical college for LPN and CAN Program. After a short break raising her children, Jacquie took a position at a family practice where her "boss" was a former Air Force doctor.

In civilian life she also enjoyed being a Girl Scout leader, Junior League member, Welcome Wagon volunteer, New Neighbor League member, and bravely accepted a position as Jr. High religious education coordinator/teacher for her church.

Sarah Lewis Boone Daughters are proud to honor and recognize Jacqueline VanMeter as Patriot of the Month for her patriotism and invaluable service to our great nation.