

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

December 2021



Matthew Mark Hansen

United States Navy



Sponsored by:
Osage
Chapter

Matthew joined the US Navy in September 1997 and attended boot camp at Great Lakes, Illinois. Immediately after he went through his C school (in depth training). Upon completion he reported to his first command with the HS-7 DUSTY DOGS aboard Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, FL. "Our missions were Anti-Submarine Warfare, Search and Rescue (water rescue) and Combat Search and Rescue (land rescue) operations in SH-60 and HH-60 Seahawk Helicopters. We did work up training operations aboard the USS *John F. Kennedy*, USS *Enterprise*, USS *Roosevelt*, and completed desert training at Naval Air Station, Fallon, Nevada. We then embarked on our 6-month deployment on the USS *Enterprise*. While on deployment we conducted operational missions in Kosovo, Bosnia, and Operation Desert Fox in Iraq."

He found it eye opening visiting foreign countries and observing different customs and cultures. He visited the statue of "David in the Accademia Gallery" in Florence, Italy. He participated in joint training sessions with the Israeli Air Force for several weeks at Air Base Avdat Israel. "In a helicopter off the coast of Florida during a training mission I witnessed a space shuttle launch, the reflections off of the ocean were like being inside of a painting."

Matt was awarded the Navy Achievement medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary medal, Kosovo NATO medal, Bosnia NATO medal, sea service deployment ribbon, expert rifleman ribbon and good conduct ribbon.

Best advice he received; "You're only as good as the people you surround yourself with, and whatever you do today you will have to sleep with tonight."

Matthew stated: "I was fortunate enough to be brought up in a loving home. There is no doubt I am the man I am today because of the example set by my parents Ron & Susan, and I am forever grateful for them both. They taught us discipline, love for God and our Country, to respect others and to work hard and achieve what you want on your own merit. I've been blessed with my own children and have tried to instill these values into them as well."

Matthew has been a Federal Firefighter for Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville Fire Rescue since February 3, 2003, he is a Lieutenant on Ladder 131. Matt is married and has five children, attends Cornerstone Baptist Church in Middleburg, Florida and is a member of the NRA.

Osage Chapter Daughters Chapter are proud to honor and Matthew Mark Hansen as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism and service to our great nation.