

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

December 2021



Jack Neal McNevin

United States Marine Corps

Sponsored by:
Ozark Spring
Chapter

Jack Neal McNevin enlisted in the Marine Corps in April of 1943 at St. Louis. He served in the Regimental Weapons Company, 23rd Marines, 4th Marine Division. He trained at Camp Elliott and Camp Pendleton before serving in the Pacific Theatre during WWII. He received a medical discharge in March of 1945.

Besides getting three squares a day (and for some who grew up during the depression this was a big deal), Jack states that there were two reasons he chose the Marines, and both involved Marines he knew who were captured prior to his enlisting. The first was a guy from his class at school who was captured on Wake Island, and the second was a neighbor a few years older than Jack who was captured at Corregidor.

Being a Marine did not make Jack any better than those in other branches of service, but these two men were his inspiration in choosing the Marines.

Jack spent most of his time at Camp Pendleton and Hawaii, with three weeks on Saipan. He told of a humorous incident that happened to him, although at the time probably not so much. He had been in the hospital at Guadalcanal and was put on a ship thought to be heading back to Hawaii. He was transferred from ship to ship, and each time he was told, "I think this ship will get you to Hawaii." Two and a half months later he arrived back at Guadalcanal. He did get back to his unit in Hawaii and got to see a lot of the Pacific in the process.

He also recalled being on gun watch aboard one of a convoy of many ships, and not a light was to be seen anywhere except the light of the stars. He wonders, if he went back now, whether the stars would be as bright as he remembers.

Jack spoke of his 23 months serving our country, recalling the feeling he got when in the middle of a firefight, and said, "There is nothing glorious about war."

After the service, Jack worked for the US Postal Service for 34 years, with the last 9 years as Postmaster of the West Plains Post Office. He and his late wife of 70 years were blessed with four daughters.

Ozark Spring Daughters are proud to honor and recognize Jack McNevin as Patriot of the Month for his very patriotic and dedicated service to our great nation.

