

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

April 2022

Alexander Rosener

United States Marine Corps
Army National Guard

Sponsored by:
Louisiana Purchase
Chapter



Alexander Rosener joined the Marines in October 1999 after graduating from high school. Always having a love for the military, his career included two different branches, the Marines, and the Army National Guard. Following basic training at Camp Pendleton, San Diego County California he was then assigned to Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. From this training, he went to Iraq.



Sharing many experiences, Alex had bombs blown up in his face until it turned white and saw many big battles doing his job as Gunner on an armored truck. He witnessed the destruction of the Saddam Hussein statue as it was toppled in Firdos Square, downtown Baghdad, on April 9, 2003. "These were very intense times, as missiles were shot, everyone running in street, blowing up everything. We ran out of food and slept in dirt holes." Alex recalled. He said he didn't sleep for 72 hours. Alex's enlistment was up in 2003. "I loved the military and didn't want to leave, but I had custody of my children and the Marines were not lenient," said Alex. "In 2007 I joined the Army National Guard as Sergeant. I called myself a Pretend Soldier, said Alex. It was a good fit as I could still be with my children." He was the Administrator for Unit 1138th Engineers. There were offices in Festus, Farmington, and DeSoto.

He had a lot of good experiences in the Army National Guard from a hometown aspect. They helped in ice storms, flooding, etc. In 2008, he went to Leadership School in Grafton, Nebraska. He was in the office and directed people to assignments. This is where he was given the list of names of the National Guard that were assigned to Afghanistan for Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2009. Scanning down, he saw his name. After almost a year's training, he was back in Afghanistan as a Gunner.



Alex had 120 missions as a Gunner. He said that he was lucky to be a Gunner because he was originally assigned as a truck driver. As they were on route to Afghanistan, he told his Platoon Sergeant that a Gunner needed extra training. He ended up with the job, which turned out to be his most memorable experience. He was specifically tasked with finding roadside bombs in Afghanistan.

He shared a humorous story. "When I got out of the Marines, they did not give me any medals." I commented to my Captain for Special Task Forces as we were talking in the Helicopter. "He took care of it, so while I was in Afghanistan in the Army National Guard on my 2nd deployment, I received my medals that I had earned on my 1st deployment." Alex's medals include: Purple Heart, Bronze Star with Valor, Combat Action Ribbon Iraq Marine, Marine Accommodation Medal for Personal Actions, and others. Alex was honorably discharged in 2013 and ironically, on November 1, 2013, U.S. Forces withdrew from FOB Salerno and transferred control of the installation to the Afghan National Army.

When asked the best advice he received, he said, "Nobody cares, WORK HARD AND THEN HARDER."

Alex is a member of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Presently, he owns his own business, which is DeSoto Strength and Conditioning. When I asked him if he was involved in the community, he said joyfully, "I am a HODAR."

Members of the Louisiana Purchase Chapter MSSDAR, including Jennifer, his lovely wife is proud to nominate Alexander Rosener as Patriot of the Month and extend gratitude for his service and dedication to our great country.