

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

June 2022

Karen E. Dyson

United States Army



Sponsored by:
Alexander McNair
Chapter



The daughter of a Special Forces Officer in the United States Army, Karen Dyson was commissioned into the Army Finance Corps from Missouri State University in 1980. Her career was filled with successive leadership assignments that

afforded her the privilege of leading soldiers, building teams, and supporting America's Army in times of peace and war.

General Dyson led soldiers in the wars of her generation, deploying from her assigned stations in Germany. As a company commander in Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Karen established base operations for a brigade level Finance Headquarters, ensuring training, security, mobility, and sustainability for soldiers in operations across the Saudi Arabian desert. In Iraq/Afghanistan, Karen led Army Finance operations delivered through four battalions spread across five countries engaged in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Under her command, she led intelligence operations that leveraged cash payments to identify adversarial networks and implemented electronic payments and stored value cards to reduce cash on the battlefield. Her soldiers were known as "bankers on the battlefield" who supported soldiers' cash needs for buying sundries at one end and provisioned cash payments leveraged by warfighters for intelligence gathering purposes or putting local populations to work at the other end of the finance support spectrum. Support provided by her troops truly enabled our forces at war.

In staff positions, Karen's assignments included Chief of Staff & Comptroller of the White House Military Office, which supported President George W. Bush and gave her the most remarkable experience of supporting firsthand our nation's senior executive leaders in a time of crisis in the White House on 9-11, 2001. General Dyson culminated her military career as Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management & Comptroller), a three-star general officer leading budget and financial management functions responsible for resourcing the Army's global operations during war, technology escalation and shifting world order.

In her post-military work Karen serves as independent director on the boards of Genworth, including Chair, Management Development and Compensation Committee; USAA Federal Savings Bank, including Chair, Nominating & Governance Committee; CALIBRE, including Chair, Audit Committee; and Army Emergency Relief Organization. General Dyson holds an MBA from Austin Peay State University and Masters in National Resource Strategy from the Eisenhower School of National Security. She has earned many awards but is most proud of Meritorious Unit Commendations reflecting exceptional team accomplishments of her soldiers and civilians supporting our nation in times of war.

Karen is married to Jim Chamberlain, Colonel, U.S. Air Force, Retired, and resides between the Finger Lakes in New York and Space Coast in Florida. They spend their free time exploring the water on their trawler, Off the Grid.

Alexander McNair Daughters are extremely proud to recognize and honor Karen E. Dyson as Patriot of the Month for her dedication, patriotism and service to our great country.