

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

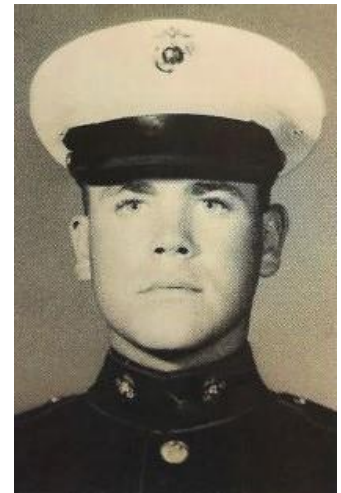
Patriot of the Month

August 2022

Michael Lazio

United States Marine Corps

Sponsored by:
Platte Purchase Chapter, NSDAR



In January of 1966 Michael Lazio enlisted in the Marines and in February traveled from Kansas City to San Diego, California for bootcamp. It was such a shocking experience he lost seventy pounds during the process. He was assigned to Marine Attack Squadron 242 part of the Aircraft Wing, FMS Pacific. After attending numerous training schools, he was sent to Da Nang, South Vietnam and was in charge of flight line operations getting planes combat ready for deep strikes eventually 16783 of them. Each plane had a Plane captain and Sergeant E-5 Michael was in charge of all the Plane Captains. Because the main plane they worked with was the A-6A Intruder with a squadron Insignia of a bat and lightning bolt, they were called Batmen. He received the Meritorious Mast for leadership, technical skill and outstanding attention to duty.

Michael reached an inflection point during the Tet Offensive when his airfield was attacked suddenly. With rockets exploding all around him, he ran for cover with no weapon, no helmet and no flack jacket. He shouted to God, "Save Me and I will serve you for the rest of my life." He saw a transparent hand come down from heaven and cover him like a force field during the worst of the rocket attack. He felt peace and knew he would survive. Michael served until February of 1972.

Mr. Lazio worked for American Family Insurance for twenty-two years. He is now the Minister of the Bethel House of Prayer in Platte City, MO. He is one of the Chaplains to the Police Force which includes helping people in accidents, those who land in Platte City with nowhere to go, and those with other needs. He is also a member of Pray KC which helps people learn the power of prayer. He has been married for fifty-three years and has three children and nine grandchildren.

Platte Purchase Daughters are very proud of Michael Lazio and honored to recognize him as Patriot of the Month for his dedicated patriotic service to his community and our great nation.