

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

September 2022

Grant P. Day

United States Navy Reserves

Sponsored by:

Saint Charles Chapter, NSDAR



Grant Day entered the service on June 13, 1967 at Terminal Island Naval Station, Long Beach, CA. He enlisted on June 13 and on approximately July 8th, he received his draft notice. He was able to return the letter with his Service Number and his Draft Classification was changed from 1a to 4A which indicated that he was on active service.

His duty stations included: Terminal Island, CA; Sub School, Hunters Point, San Francisco, CA; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; and US Naval Station, Polaris Point, Guam.

He began his career as a Seaman as part of the Deck force. When in port, they would perform ship maintenance, mess cooking for the crew, and painting the exterior. When they were in Drydock, he was painting the inside of the Ballast Tanks. He decided that advancement was the only way out of the Deck Force.

Because of his electronics background, he was able to advance to E4 and join the Sonar Group. He next qualified as a Sonar Supervisor which meant that he was the "eyes and ears" of the ship, and the whole crew and ship were his responsibility. He completed the advancement to ES and was awarded the rank when he reported to his reserve unit after Active Duty.

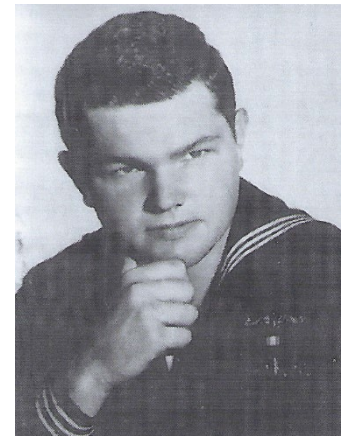
He was awarded: the National Defense Ribbon; qualified in Submarines 3 Sept 1969; Polaris Patrol Pin completed 4 Cold War Patrols; Ancient Order of the Deep- Shellback (Crossing the Equator); USNR Meritorious Service Ribbon and Honorable Discharge on 12 June 1973.

Mr. Day states that two interesting things happened while in the service: when the ship traveled 50 miles from the center of a Pacific Typhoon and he was looking through the periscope to find that they were in 50 foot seas and the fact that he traveled $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way around the world submerged (the remainder was by air). He states that the best advice he was ever given was that he should "join the Submarine Service."

After leaving the military, he went back to college and received a Certificate in Dental Technology. He managed a dental lab for six years and took a position in Dental Materials Research in CT. In 1990, he completed a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and continued his dental career. For 24 years, he traveled the world teaching technicians about Dental Materials- how and why they work and how to use them to create new prosthetics for patients. In 2004, he was traded to a Fortune 500 Dental Company and began teaching technicians how to operate 5 axis Laser Scanners with 5 axis modeling software on the operation of 5 axis milling machines. He retired on March 1, 2015.

He belongs to King of Kings Lutheran Church, United States Submarine Veterans Inc, Rocky Mountain Base and is an active member of Dysert O'Dea Association (an Irish group).

He married his wife in Honolulu on July 24, 1970. When they arrived at the Justice of the Peace, he said it was such a beautiful day he thought they should go across the street for the ceremony. They followed him into the



Rotunda of King Kamehameha's Castle. This was five days before he left on his last patrol. They have one son who has a Ph.D. in Structural Geology and live in Arvada, CO.