

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

## Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

September 2023



## Thomas L. Bone

### United States Army

Sponsored by:  
Louisiana Purchase Chapter, NSDAR

Thomas L Bone enlisted in the U.S. Army in February 1961 shortly after graduating from St Joachim's High School. After completing his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, he was assigned to Fort Belvoir, Virginia. This is where he was trained on using Generators for producing electric power.



Stationed at Fort Belvoir, which is approximately 20 miles south of Washington D.C, Tom witnessed the Changing of the Guard Ritual at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He also had the opportunity to visit the White House, Washington Monument, Smithsonian Institute, and experience the sights and sounds of Washington D.C. This was an added highlight in his training.

After a year of training at Fort Belvoir, Tom was assigned to Thule, Greenland for one year. It is located more than 1100 km north of the Arctic Circle and about 1500 km away from the North Pole. The area is the only place on Earth where three glaciers get together, and sightseeing with icebergs was beautiful. Tom said there were rabbits larger than foxes.

His military unit was located on one of the four mountains. Their job was to protect the Air Base in the valley below. With a smile, he said, "they weren't shooting at us. That was a good thing." At Thule. Greenland, the summers are very cold and partly cloudy, and the winters are long, frigid, and snowy. Temperatures vary year around from 46 degrees F to -32 degrees F. Greenland experiences 24 hours of sunlight during the summer and during the winter months there is very little sunlight.

Tom said that they were treated very well with banquets for the holidays and plenty of good food, and once a month they had live entertainment reminding them of the Bob Hope shows. I guess that compensated for the harsh weather and never seeing anyone but his military companions. His final remark was, "I wouldn't trade it. I was doing my duty and I was one of the lucky ones."

Honorably discharged in February 1964, Tom then attended trade school for Heating and Air conditioning. After working for various Heating and Cooling companies, he went into business for himself.

Presently retired, Tom and his wife, Wanda have two daughters, three grandsons and one granddaughter. He belongs to the Knights of Columbus and is a lifetime member of the Elks. His favorite hobbies are Pickle Ball, Travel, Reading, Line Dancing, Fishing and Hunting. His love for Hunting attests to his Sharpshooter Medal that he received in the Army.

The Daughters of the Louisiana Purchase Chapter NSDAR are proud to nominate Sergeant Thomas L Bone as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.