

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

October 2023



## Dennis M. Hoppe United States Air Force

Sponsored by:  
Valley of the Meramec Chapter, NSDAR

Dennis M. Hoppe enlisted in the United States Air Force in August of 1961. Basic training began at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas and transferred to Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi for the last two weeks of basic training where he began training as a radar technician. Upon completion of the radar technician training he was transferred to Pyote, Texas to begin his work. Some time later he received orders and was transferred to Chandler Air Force Base in Minnesota where he would finish his enlistment with the United States Air Force. He obtained an honorable discharge in August of 1965.



While in the USAF he received a Good Conduct Metal, Small Arms Marksmanship Certificate and a Certificate of training in Aircraft Control and Warning Radar Repairman course (9-11-1962).

When asked "What was the most interesting thing you did while in the service?" he responded by saying that he learned to ride a horse on a cattle ranch while in Texas.

Dennis stated that the best advice that he received in the service was "Don't draw attention to yourself!"

Dennis met his wife of 58 years of marriage and counting, while on his final leg in the service in Chandler Minnesota. He was asked to reenlist and be sent to Cambodia but was told by his the future wife "If you go, I might not be here when you get back." He chose to not reenlist and was married in late 1965. Dennis has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

After leaving the service he used his GI Bill to attend college and complete flight school in Colorado. He spent the following years working as a commercial agricultural pilot flying both airplanes and helicopters in the United States and several foreign countries. On occasion he would land the helicopter in his back yard and take his children for a flight of delight.

The Valley of the Meramec Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution are proud to nominate Dennis M. Hoppe as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.