

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

## Proudly Honors

### Patriot of the Month

November 2023



## Samuel F. Richards

### United States Marine Corps

Sponsored by:

Louisiana Purchase Chapter, NSDAR

Samuel F. Richards enlisted in the United States Marine Corps January 20, 1966. Following Basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California, his assignments included: Aviation Schooling in Memphis, Tennessee, Drill Instructor in San Diego, California, Vietnam, Hawaii, Okinawa, Japan, Yuma, Arizona, Camp Pendleton, California, Recruiting duty Marine Recruiter in Festus, MO, Santa Ana, California, and Marine Corps Reserve Training Center in St. Louis, MO. His various jobs included: Airplane mechanic, Career planner, Drill Instructor, Recruiter, First Sergeant, and Sergeant Major.



When asked what he remembered most about his time in the service, he replied, “The people I met and the places I was stationed. As a Drill Instructor, I was able to mold civilians to be Marines. As a First Sergeant/Sergeant Major, being able to ensure the enlisted Marines were treated fairly and performed in a professional manner.”

Sam said that living in Hawaii, going to Okinawa, Japan, Korea, Philippines, and Hong Kong were some of the most interesting things that he saw and did in the service.

He remarked that the best advice he received in the service was that no matter what job you are given, do it with the best of your abilities and with motivation.

On February 28, 1989, Samuel F. Richards, Sergeant Major, USMC retired from the United States Marine Corps. His last assignment was at the Marine Corps Reserve Training Center in St Louis, MO. Sam’s list of Medals include: Purple Heart Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, 2 Air Medals, Navy Achievement Medal with Combat V, 7 Good Conduct Medals, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 5 stars, Vietnam Commendation Medal with 1960 device, Combat Air Crewman Wings with 3 stars, Navy Unit Commendation with 2 bronze stars, Meritorious Unit Commendation with bronze star, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with 2 bronze stars, Combat Action Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Commendation with Palm Device, 7 Rifle Expert awards, and 8 Pistol Expert awards.

His military career prepared him for his civilian job as he was a police officer in Crystal City for 12 years, and 6 years with G’Sell properties. His community organizations include Board of directors for 23 years with the Joachim/Plattin Ambulance District, City Councilman for Crystal City, City Councilman for Festus and is currently the Mayor of Festus, Missouri.

Sam is presently married to his wife, Becky of 13 years and has 3 daughters, and 5 granddaughters. His hobbies are hunting and traveling.

The Daughters of the Louisiana Purchase Chapter NSDAR are proud to nominate Samuel F. Richards, Sergeant Major-USMC as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.