## Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



**Proudly Honors** 

Patriot of the Month

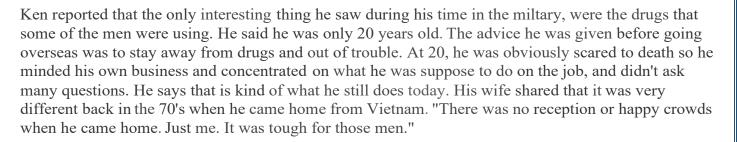
May 2024

## Ken Barger

## **United States Army**

Sponsored by: John Sappington Chapter, NSDAR

Ken Barger was drafted into the military in 1971. He served in the Army and was quickly sent to Vietnam. Ken was trained as a radio operator with an infantry battalion. He served on a fire base and on a relay site on a mountain outside of Xuan Loe Vietnam. In addition, he received a Bronze Star for the efforts that his team and he did to save the lives of a platoon of soldiers in the jungle that were being attacked by North Vietnamese forces by coordinating a helicopter pick up in the middle of the night.



Before going into the service, Ken had worked for National Supermarket. When he returned he was lucky enough to have a job waiting for him. He worked there for 27 years the spent some years at Dillard and Sears in management roles. After retirement he needed something to do so he reached out to the Red Cross because they had responded to a fire his son had in his apartment.

When he discovered that the Red Cross helps people in more ways than he ever imagined. So now he has been there for about 6 years helping them in their actions all over the country and overseas. Ken has been married to his wife Melissa for 45 years and says he could not accomplish many of the things he does without her support from helping me grow up when he came home to now when she helps him deploy out of town for the Red Cross. They have two children. Amanda and Cody, and three granddaughters Maggie, Molly and Kennedy and have a grandson on the way. He feels very blessed.

