

**MISSOURI STATE SOCIETY
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**



Proudly Honors

**PATRIOT OF THE MONTH
OCTOBER 2024**



**HAROLD S. FLYNN
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
FEBRUARY 1965 – FEBRUARY 1971
SPECIALIST 5**

Sponsored by:

Louisiana Purchase Chapter, NSDAR



Harold S. Flynn joined the Army National Guard on February 10, 1965. He had basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, which included rifle training and bridge building. Job duties were to participate in the assembly and maintenance of military steel, trussell, and floating bridges. These bridges would provide support when a platoon tackled rough terrain in combat situations. Harold said they were called the Bailey Bridges Specialists.

After National Guard meetings and summer camps, he was activated to Fort Benning, Georgia. As a Senior Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic, he was primarily responsible for supervising and performing maintenance and recovery operations on wheeled vehicles.

His military friends advised him not to volunteer for anything. However, his sergeant asked him to volunteer as a truck driver. Harold trusted him and accepted the job. It proved to be worthwhile and when dignitaries came to the base, he was also their jeep driver.

Harold related an interesting thing when he was stationed at Fort Benning. He had six more months of duty, and he was very unhappy with his officer, who he could not satisfy. After consulting with the main officer, and because of his experience as a meat cutter at Kroger's before joining the Army National Guard, he was assigned to work with the civilians as a meat cutter for the platoon.

On February 9, 1971, Harold was assigned back to the Festus Armory for an honorable discharge as a Specialist 5 (SPC5).

He earned the following awards: National Defense Service Medal, State of Missouri Welcome Home, Missouri Governor Vietnam War 1961-1975 Medal, Sharpshooter, and Expert Sharpshooter.

After his service in the military, he returned to Kroger as a meat cutter. From there he was hired at Pittsburg Plate Glass on the assembly line. Promoted to the machine shop, he operated an overhead crane in the day and went to Rankin Trade School in the evening. Another opportunity opened as an electrician at PPG. He took the test, was accepted, and had a four-year apprenticeship. Harold retired from Cero Copper as an electrician in 2010.

He belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the National Rifle Association. Happily married to Vicki Lee for 58 years, they have three children, nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. His hobbies are hunting, fishing, and enjoying the grandchildren.

The Daughters of the Louisiana Purchase Chapter, NSDAR, are proud to nominate SPC5 Harold S. Flynn as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.