

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

Proudly Honors



THOMAS BERNARD ADAMS
UNITED STATES ARMY
SERGEANT (E-5)
DECEMBER 1, 1965 – DECEMBER 1, 1971



as

**PURPLE HEART PATRIOT
NOVEMBER 2024**

Honoring his Service and Sacrifice

Sponsored by: Louisiana Purchase Chapter, NSDAR



Thomas Bernard Adams was drafted into the US Army on December 1, 1965, after graduating from Festus High School. He was assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas, where he received his Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training.

In November 1966, he was assigned to Vietnam. Crossing the ocean on a troop ship was new and interesting to him; it was a ship that was left over from Korea. Arriving in Vietnam, Tom recalls hearing canon fire and explosions in the distance as something he will always remember.

“On May 2, 1967, we were on a maneuver in the 9th Infantry and set up alongside a roadway. The next morning took a lot of fire. Vietcong came out of the wooded area. We were the underdogs because there were so many of them. However, we were able to call for help as there was a mechanized unit a couple of miles away. Fire dropped and my Sergeant had a shrapnel which took off part of his foot. It backfired and hit my left leg. We were taken to the hospital. My Sergeant never came back from the hospital, so I never saw him again. I was lucky to have stitches, but the infection set in and later I was released from the hospital to go back to the field. In the middle of June 1967, I was called from the field to receive my Purple Heart Award. There was no ceremony. I then received transfer papers to go to the north area of Vietnam.”

In November 1967, Tom received orders to go home. Honorably discharged on

December 1, 1971, Tom received the National Defense Service Medal, Expert M-14 Rifle, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, and Purple Heart Medal.

The best advice he received in the service focused on teamwork, discipline, housekeeping, and dress code.

After his military duties, Tom did construction work and then was employed by Union Pacific Railroad on the Maintenance crew for the railroad. Now retired, he loves to work in his home garage. He belongs to the Amvets and volunteers at the Ozark Food Pantry.

Married to Ceil Hermann Adams in 1970, they have four children and seven grandchildren. He gives his wife credit for putting up with his time of adjustment back to civilian life.

The Daughters of the Louisiana Purchase Chapter, NSDAR, are proud to nominate E5 Thomas Bernard Adams as Purple Heart Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.

