

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



Proudly Honors

**PATRIOT OF THE MONTH
DECEMBER 2024**



**DANA (LEWIS) WARD
UNITED STATES ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
JUNE 22, 2002 – JUNE 21, 2008
SPECIALIST (E-4)**

Sponsored by:

Gilead Rupe Chapter, NSDAR



Dana (Lewis) Ward joined the United States Army National Guard on June 22, 2002, in Junction City, Kansas. She was only 18 years old at the time and knew that military service meant that she could be asked to lay down her life for her country. She still proudly took her Oath of Enlistment and went on to basic training at Fort Jackson in South Carolina. Upon graduation from basic training she was sent to Fort Lee in Virginia for Quartermaster training and was finally stationed in Topeka, Kansas, where she was assigned to the 714th Quartermaster Platoon.

During service in the US Army National Guard, Dana earned the Kansas National Guard Achievement Medal, Kansas National Guard Service Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, and the Army Service Medal.

She gained experience in motor pool operations, Army Preventive Maintenance Checks and Services (PMCS), warehousing, administrative duties, and Army Warrior Leadership.

She fondly remembers the times she spent participating in maneuvers where she had to stay overnight in an Army tent. One of her least favorite memories was when she had to complete training in a gas chamber with a gas mask that was too big. Due to a poor seal of the mask to her face, she had full exposure to the chlorobenzylidene malononitrile gas used in the chamber.

The best advice Dana has regarding service in the military is that every American citizen should serve and in doing so, create a better country and way of life for

everyone. She also emphasizes the educational and on-the-job training earned through military service.

Dana uses the training and degree in Business Management she earned during her service to help manage the very successful moving company that her and her husband own and operate. Family means so much to her and always has. She met her husband at the Millbrook Church of God in Millbrook, Alabama, while they were still in high school. They have been together ever since and have two beautiful daughters, whom Dana home schools.

Dana's husband is also a veteran. She supported him through three combat deployments and knows the true meaning of managing the home front. While attending college, she shouldered the worry and uncertainty of her husband being on the "front lines" in Iraq. She adapted to the changes and sacrifices required of a military spouse while she herself served our country.