

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

Proudly Honors



VERNON WRIGHT
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
SERGEANT (E-4)
DECEMBER 5, 1967 – JULY 14, 1969



as

**PURPLE HEART PATRIOT
DECEMBER 2024**

Honoring his Service and Sacrifice
Sponsored by: St. Joseph Chapter, NSDAR



Vernon Wright joined the U.S. Marine Corps on December 5, 1967, at the age of eighteen. He was sent to San Diego, California, for his basic training.

In June of 1968, Mr. Wright was sent to Vietnam. He said they left California on a TWA plane headed to Vietnam.

Mr. Wright explained that on January 1, 1969, while on a "Search and Find" patrol he and his unit encountered an enemy bunker. In the bunker were two Viet Cong. They came out of the bunker firing TK-47s and tossing grenades. The unit was able to kill one of the Vietnamese,

but not before they wounded three Marines. He was one of the Marines wounded. Some of the shrapnel from the grenade hit him in the groin. The other Viet Cong was shortly killed.

A medic chopper was called in to take the other wounded and himself to the Danang Hospital.

The Purple Heart Medal was awarded to Mr. Wright by Captain VanRiper. Other medals received by Mr. Wright were: the Good Conduct Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Medal, the President Unit Citation, and the Vietnam Service Medal.



Mr. Wright received an Honorable Discharge from the Marines on July 14, 1969.

Mr. Wright said his Unit still meets annually for three to four days. One year they chose a location east of the Mississippi River and the next year west of the Mississippi River. It is a time of remembrance in which they can talk freely with each other about the time they spent fighting for their country, the hardships they faced, and the men who were lost during their time in Vietnam.