

MISSOURI STATE SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Proudly Honors
PATRIOT OF THE MONTH
JANUARY 2025



GLENN C. KIEPE
UNITED STATES ARMY
AUGUST 1954 – AUGUST 1958
AIRMAN FIRST CLASS

Sponsored by:
Louisiana Purchase Chapter, NSDAR



Glenn C. Kiepe enlisted in the United States Air Force in August 1954. According to Glenn, unlike many of the others, he enjoyed his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base (AFB), San Antonio, Texas. His other duty stations were: Keesler, AFB, Biloxi, Mississippi, where he had a year of technical schooling. As Radar Maintenance, his next assignment was with the 809th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron in Owingsville, Kentucky, where he recalls that the civilians were very nice to the airmen.

Empire Air Force Station, Traverse City, Michigan, were good memories amid beautiful north vacation land. They were privileged to help the local people after a tornado hit their town. However, wintertime in Michigan was cold with deep snow. On one occasion

when the men were out and a severe snowstorm came, one of the locals let them stay at their house for the night. Glenn was told to put a Pepsi can on his antenna in case the snow got too deep to find his car. And the snow did come and buried his car on this country road. On the next day, the only way they found it was by seeing the top of the Pepsi can amid the snow.

When asked what was the most interesting thing that he saw or did in the service, he gleefully told this story. As he was part of the United States Air Force Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, one night when he was on duty, they detected an aircraft and thought it might be an enemy. They warned the fighter crafts as they watched on scope to circle the aircraft. On board the British aircraft was the young Queen Elizabeth as they were flying her to Canada to see her subjects. They would not identify themselves and did not know the code. Glenn said, "We almost shot her down with our fighting aircraft before they identified themselves. Very thankful that everything ended okay."

As there was no discharge center at Empire Air Force Station, he was sent back to Selfridge Air Force Base, Mt. Clemens, Michigan, where Glenn was honorably discharged in August 1958. Glenn's best advice he received in the service was to do your job and keep your nose clean. Returning to Festus, Missouri, he worked at PPG Industry and continued Farming. He is active in the community as a member of the Lions Club, Rotary Club, American Legion, St Louis Barbershop Quartet Singing Group, and Gold Star Parents. His hobbies are traveling Europe and the United States. A spiritual family man, he also enjoys family get-togethers. Every summer they enjoyed Branson shows, boating, and water skiing,

Married to Mary Jane Werner Kiepe, they have raised five children, He is very proud of his family of four daughters, two are registered nurses and two are school teachers. Their only son was a Navy Fighter Pilot for seven years in the F/A-8 Hornet fighter jet and was killed while testing missiles while on duty, Glenn emphasized that they are a Christian family with five children, 15 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren. His final comments were that someday we will all be together again with Jesus. The Daughters of the Louisiana Purchase Chapter, NSDAR, are proud to nominate Airman First Class Glenn C. Kiepe as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.