

MISSOURI STATE SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Proudly Honors



DON ROUSH
UNITED STATES ARMY
CORPORAL (E-4)
1952 – 1953



as

**PURPLE HEART PATRIOT
FEBRUARY 2025**

Honoring his service and Sacrifice

Sponsored by: John Sappington Chapter, NSDAR



Don was drafted into the U.S. Army to serve in the Korean War. He served on the front line in a heavily shelled trench in Korea. He served as a corporal and had seventeen men in his squad. They had a very clear view of the North Korean trench, directly across from theirs, that also contained the Chinese Army. In the distance they could see the Sea of Japan. They were in such close proximity, the enemy used loudspeakers and bullhorns to communicate with the Americans. Sometimes the voices were heavily accented, sometimes they spoke perfect English and late at night and in the wee hours of the morning they would hear "GI, in your home town, in your little church, your parents are looking at your coffin and picture." They were so close to the enemy that on two occasions, the North Koreans climbed into the US trench and bayoneted GI's.

Don received a Purple Heart on September 5, 1952. About six weeks later, on October 27, 1952, he was awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster, a second Purple Heart. He also received the United Nations Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, Combat Infantry Badge, Korea Ministry of Patriots Affairs Medal, Korean Veterans Association Medal, United Nations Overseas Belgian Government Medal, American National Defense Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, and Army Infantry Stamp Medal. Don was honorably discharged on June 7, 1953, from the 5th Regimental Combat Team in Punchbowl Korea.

At the time Don was interviewed, he was is eighty-five years old but still very active. He and his wife were involved with their church. Don was also active with the local Veterans Administration (VA). He attended a small veterans group every week at the Jefferson Barracks VA. He was the only remaining Korean veteran in the group, the others served in Vietnam. He assisted with

the American Legion's Poppy Days. One of his most interesting volunteer activities was working the "Daisy Days." Six weekends during the summer, the Korean War veterans chapters ask some of the members to collect money for the veterans home in Anna, Illinois.

The Daughters of the John Sappington Chapter DAR are proud to nominate Don Roush as a Purple Heart Patriot and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.