

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



*Proudly Honors*

**PATRIOT OF THE MONTH  
MARCH 2025**



**CHARLES MICHAEL DALE  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
JUNE 1962 – MARCH 1972  
STAFF SERGEANT (E-6)**

*Sponsored by:*

**Gayoso Chapter, NSDAR**



Charles Michael “Mike” Dale, a Caruthersville High School graduate, joined the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) in 1962, attending Boot Camp (Basic Training) in San Diego, California. Mike spent two tours in Vietnam. In addition to San Diego and Vietnam, he was assigned to Okinawa, Camp Pendleton where he attended radio school, Camp Lejeune, where he re-enlisted, Memphis, Tennessee and El Torro, California (Santa Ana LTA). Along the way, he met and married the love of his life, Ann (Wendy) Miller Crislip. They met while he was in North Carolina. Mike left the USMC in 1972 when he and Wendy moved back to Caruthersville.

The greatest advice he was ever given was “Duck”. There were times when he didn’t always heed that advice. At the beginning of the Tet Offensive, he and a few friends were enjoying some off time in camp and when the bombing started, rather than initially hunkering down, they climbed up on top of their hutch to watch what was going on. It did not take long and they all got down and ducked into the trenches.

The most memorable period was the Tet Offensive.

He received the Vietnam Service, Vietnam Campaign, National Defense Ribbon, National Defense Service, Good Conduct - 3 awards, Combat Action Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon and the Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation.

After discharge from the USMC, Mike and Wendy returned to Caruthersville. Mike held numerous jobs. He worked as an employee of the family business, Dale TV, selling and servicing Televisions and stereos and later helping install and service the earliest of satellites at homes in the area. He was a computer salesman and programmer, a seed company sales manager, a photographer, an insurance salesman and a convenience store manager.

Mike has been and continues to be very involved in his community. He was a member of the Jaycees, Lion's Club, in which he is a past president, the Chamber of Commerce where he is a past president, and the City of Caruthersville city treasurer since 2018. He is also a member of the Pemiscot County American Legion Post #88.

Mike and Wendy are very involved with their church, Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Caruthersville. He and Wendy have two sons, Dwayne and Damon Dale.