

# MISSOURI STATE SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

*Proudly Honors*



**JOHN JOSEPH CAINE**  
UNITED STATES ARMY  
MASTER SERGEANT (E-7)  
1943 – 1945



WOUNDED IN ACTION – NOVEMBER 15, 1944  
*as*

**PURPLE HEART PATRIOT  
AUGUST 2025**

*Honoring His Service and Sacrifice*  
*Sponsored by: Rock Island Chapter, NSDAR*



John Joseph Caine was born in Manhattan, New York, to John J. Caine and Lourene (Petty) Caine on November 24, 1924. He had one brother, Bill. John's father died when he was 12 years old, and his mother moved the family to Missouri, where they had a vacation home. John graduated from Versailles High School and began attending college, as well as working in the family furniture business, before enlisting in the Army in 1943.

John was in Company B, 324 Infantry when he joined. He was sent to several camps in the states before being shipped out on the first troop transport to sail directly from the U.S. to the port of Cherbourg, France, in 1944. He was at the front for some time and was managing well until the rainy and cold weather set in. His group was in two-man foxholes with some cover, but they were still getting wet. About every two weeks, they were able to go to the rear for a day, to shower, shave, and get a hot meal.

On November 15, 1944, at about 6:00 p.m., he was hit in the upper left arm with a piece of shrapnel from a German mortar. It was not a major wound, but he was sent to the rear area to a hospital to get medical attention. While at the hospital, he was informed he was receiving a Purple Heart and a Combat Infantryman's Badge. He was sent back to the front lines until he got ill in early 1945. After three months, the medics diagnosed him with yellow jaundice. It usually took affected troops about four weeks to recover, but he did not get better and was sent to a hospital in Southern England. He stayed in England until the war ended. He wrote in V-mail back home that he was in London on VE Day. Victorymail during the Second World War was the primary and secure method to correspond with soldiers stationed abroad. To reduce the cost of

transferring an original letter through the military postal system, a V-mail letter would be censored, copied to film, and printed back to paper upon arrival at its destination.

After the war, he returned to and graduated from Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri. He married Patricia Robinson on June 28, 1951, and had 2 sons, John and Rick. He joined the family furniture business and eventually became the owner. John was on the board of several organizations and was the Mayor of Eldon for several years. He did attend several regiment reunions before his death on July 18, 2003.

