

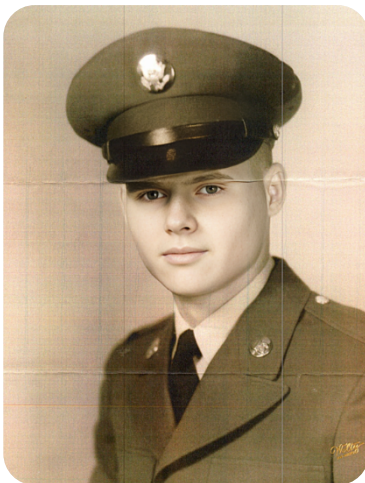
MISSOURI STATE SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Proudly Honors
PATRIOT OF THE MONTH
APRIL 2026

STEVEN STEGEN
UNITED STATES ARMY
1961 – 1964
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE RESERVE
1981 – 1985
UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE
1985 – 2005
SERGEANT FIRST CLASS (E-7)

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Saint Charles Chapter, NSDAR



Steven Stegen entered the U.S. Army on September 21, 1961. His active-duty service included completion of basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) Training at U.S. Army Rocket and Missile School, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. He attended several job training schools, including Redstone Rocket Technician school, where he worked with a cousin of Dr. Werner Von Braun. The project was canceled just after his assignment there. A highlight for Steve was shaking the hand of President John Kennedy. He also attended Hawk Missile Technician school and was assigned to Fort Bliss and was assigned to Military Assistance & Advisory Command (MAAG China). With this assignment, he was attached to the State Department and carried a diplomatic passport and had dinner with the President of Taiwan at the Chinese "White House." He was also for a short time on temporary duty to the Anti-Aircraft Battalion at Machinator, Okinawa, Japan, just after

President Kennedy was assassinated. He remembers being shot at by Communist Chinese border guards while in Hong Kong. This period of service ended in 1964.

His reserve duty with the U.S. Air Force began on March 1, 1981, and he completed Criminal and Counterintelligence Investigative Training, U.S. Office of Special Investigations, Bolling Air Force Base, in Washington, D.C. His duty assignment was as a Special Agent, Detachment 516th USAFOSI, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. This duty ended in 1985.

His reserve duty also included time with the U.S. Army, which began in 1985 as a Special Agent-Counterintelligence/Special Security Officer (SS) in St. Louis, Missouri. He completed a German language course at Washington University and became a qualified German language linguist for the Army, which qualified him for additional pay. He also completed Special Security Officer (SSO) and Communications Security (COMSEC) courses at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, which qualified him to use, store, distribute, and set up the units' TOP SECRET library and communications equipment.

His next reserve duty with the U.S. Army began on January 1, 1990, as a Special

Agent/Special Security Officer in St. Louis. This duty began because the prior detachment was disbanded. He was temporarily attached to Fort Clayton CID Office (Canal Zone, Panama, investigating the murder of soldiers guarding the "Cuban boat people" compound in the "Canal Zone." He trained as a Signals Security and Conventional Physical Security Specialist and completed Fraud Investigations Training at Fort McClellan, Alabama, and became a nationally Certified Fraud Investigator. He completed a Master's Degree at Washington University in Management.

Mr. Stegen also participated in a national investigation of Army recruiting and drill instructor sex crimes, after which several people were convicted of rape and other crimes.

He had actually retired at the end of 2001, but at the request of the unit commander, he was asked to lead the Security Manager section at U.S. Army 5035th RSU. He was asked to fill this position because of a shortage of security specialists who were sent overseas during the 9/11 War on Terror in Afghanistan. He continued in this position for three years with no pay at Fort Bliss.

He also graduated from the Defense Acquisition Management School, qualifying as a Contract Management Specialist, from the training facility at Fort Meade, Maryland.

Mr. Stegen finally retired from the military in 2005 with 26 years of credited service. He retired as Sergeant First Class. He also had three years of uncredited service because of the previously mentioned post-retirement job, as explained above.

He received numerous medals and ribbons related to conduct and service as well as weapons expertise.

After he was discharged from active duty service in 1965, Mr. Stegen worked as a police officer until 1985 for St. Louis City, MSHP, and the City of Sunset Hills. He then worked full-time for Boeing as a Security Manager. He retired from Boeing in 2007. He then worked for a few years as an Internal Affairs Investigator for the Missouri Division of Social Services. His final job was as a civilian employee of the Air Force at Scott Air Force Base as an Industrial Security Manager. He finally retired in 2023. He served in the different branches over the years based on his civilian job at the time.