

The Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly “Spotlights” our June 2011
Patriot of the Month



Joseph “Dean” Driver

Sponsored by:

**Charity Stille Langstaff
Chapter
Fulton, Missouri**



Joseph “Dean” Driver began his career as a young man of 17. He was a talented trumpeter and singer and was chosen as a member of the U.S. Army Band. With the onset of United States involvement in World War II, Dean served stateside, performing outgoing and incoming services for over 100,000 troops. He ended his enlistment in November 1945.

In August 1947, Dean enlisted in the Missouri Army National Guard. He began working full time for the Guard until the Korean Conflict. In 1951, Dean asked to transfer to fulltime Army. He did and was immediately sent to Korea and served Company F 5th Regimental Combat Team as unit administrator. His duty as unit administrator put him in charge of the mess administration as well as supply for the troops in his unit during combat.

Dean transferred out of Korea in August 1952 and was stationed in Okinawa where he was joined by his wife and two daughters. He was sent stateside in December 1953 and stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Dean was discharged from the full time Army in 1957. He returned to the full time Missouri Army Reserve National Guard in Maryville, Missouri and remained there until 1963. At that time the 35th Division transferred him to Jefferson City, Missouri.

He remained on the Adjutant General's staff until his retirement in 1983. Dean served a total of thirty-six years for his country and state, when he retired as a Chief Warrant Officer 4.

His awards include:

- Combat Infantryman's Badge
- Army Meritorious Service Medal
- Army Achievement Medal
- Good conduct Medal
- American Defense Service Medal
- American Campaign Medal
- World War II Victory Medal
- National Defense Service Medal
- Korean Service Medal w/2 battle stars
- Armed Forces Reserve Medal
- Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal
- United Nations Service Medal
- Missouri Meritorious Service Medal
- Missouri National Guard Commendation Ribbon
- Missouri State Active Duty Ribbon
- Missouri 30 Yearlong Service Medal

Dean and his wife Elizabeth have three children, five grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. He is a lifelong member of the Disciples of Christ Church and attends the First Christian Church.