



**Missouri State Society
Daughters of the American
Revolution**



**Jerome "Jerry" Hendrickson, USAF
(Ret)**

Jerry Hendrickson joined the US Navy in 1947 at the age of 16. He served his country for 20 years in both the Navy and the US Air Force. He served stateside in Florida, Maryland, California, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, New Mexico, and Virginia. Overseas duty stations included Japan, Guam, Germany, England, France, and Vietnam. While in the Air Force, he flew over 100 missions as a flight engineer on flights to Tempelhof and Gatow during the Berlin airlift. His honors and commendations include:

- Air Force Longevity Service Award (3 Oak Leaf Clusters)
- Air Force Good Conduct Medal (3 Bronze Loops)
- Air Force Commendation Medal (2 Oak Leaf Clusters)
- Airman of the Year Award
- National Defense Medal
- Navy Air Medal
- Navy Good Conduct Medal (2 Stars)
- Navy Occupation Service Ribbon with Berlin Airlift Recognition & Device
- Vietnam Service Medal

As he left the Navy and joined the Air Force, he focused on jet propulsion maintenance and managed numerous maintenance facilities in both the United States and Europe. His family traveled extensively with him and lived in Europe for three years while he managed jet propulsion maintenance on aircraft being utilized on foreign soil to keep our country secure. He served his final tour of duty in a remote area of Vietnam.

Love of country and honor runs deep in his family—both of his brothers served in the Air Force. His wife, Vyra, daughters Ginny and Valeria, and granddaughters Lori and Shelly are members of DAR or C.A.R.

He and Vyra now live in Lebanon, Missouri where they are active in civic events and strong leaders in the International Lions Association. Since becoming a member more than 15 years ago, Jerry has served as Governor, District Director, and in numerous state and local club positions, and led five vision missions into Guatemala distributing over 8,000 pairs of glasses to individuals who may never have had the opportunity to receive vision care. In addition, he personally drove and delivered an ambulance donated by his local LIONS club to a remote native village.

It is with great pride that we nominate our husband and father, Jerome Hendrickson, for Patriot of the Month. His ethics and character have enriched and lead us throughout our lives.

Vyra Hendrickson, Regent, Wyota Chapter
Valeria Schall, Southwest District Director, Treasurer, Wyota Chapter
Ginny Cain, Historian, Wyota Chapter

MSSDAR
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