



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

PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

Truman J. Smading



Truman Smading was born in eastern Oklahoma, moving with his parents to Kansas, then to Nevada, Missouri, at the age of nine. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in February, 1943, and served until February, 1946. He served as an Armed Guard Gunner during the war, attaining the rank of 2nd Class Boswainmate. His duties were protecting the Merchant ships that were transportating supplies to the front. The ships were transportating a variety of supplies such as small arms ammuniion, bombs, medical supplies, airplaines, high test gasoline, coal, and aluminum ore. He served on three ships -- the SS Finley Peter Dunne; SS Edward J. O'Brian; and a C-1 transport, the SS Cape Neddick. It was aboard the Neddick that he saw action.

Truman married Roberta, his wife of 58 years, in June, 1947. They have four children, thirteen grandchildren, and 25 great-grandchildren. Although Truman will be 82 years old in February, he can still recall with ease the dates and places of his service.

Roberta is a member of Elizabeth Carey Chapter, Nevada, Missouri, and nominated her husband for the Patriot of the Month. She believes that all WWII Veterans should be honored for keeping our country free.



MSSDAR Patriot of the Month
December 15-January 15, 2006