

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



**Richard L. Smith**

Sponsored by:

**Prairie Chapter  
Lee's Summit,  
Missouri**



Richard Smith joined the U.S. Army in November 1961. He completed basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and then went to Fort Chaffee, Arkansas for Advanced Infantry Training. After completing Basic Airborne Training at Fort Benning, Georgia, he was assigned to the Operations Section, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division as a Briefing Preparation Specialist. Richard was Honorably Discharged from active duty in November 1963.

In December 1963, he joined the 12<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) where he spent the next thirty-two years in the Active Reserve. During this period of time, he served in several varied Special Forces operations at many different locations throughout the world. In August 1995 the 12<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) was deactivated and Richard's military career came to a close and he retired.

His awards, citations, and certificates include:

- Infantry Expert
- Master Parachutist
- Jungle Expert
- Rifle Expert

- Jump Master
- Special Forces Qualified
- Sergeants Major Academy
- Army Commendation Medal
- Army Achievement Medal
- Good Conduct Medal
- Meritorious Service Medal
- Nation Defense Service Medal
- Army Service Medal
- Korean Parachute Badge

Richard worked as an engineer for AT&T. He and his wife, Judy, have four children and four grandchildren. He is a Mason and a member of the First Church of Peculiar.