

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month



April 2018



Kenneth Gene Keeling

United States Army

Sponsored by:
Neosho
Chapter

Ken enlisted in the United States Army in July, 1966. His duty stations were Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and Fort Ord, California.

He served in the Republic of Vietnam in the Infantry. Just days before he was to ship home, he received serious injuries. His unit received accidental "friendly" fire, with all receiving injuries of some type. Ken was transported to a hospital in Japan for emergency care. He received serious jaw and chest damage, as well as almost losing his left arm. Later, he was transferred to the Veterans Hospital in Denver, Colorado. He remained there for a year before being discharged from the hospital as well as the Army. He is thankful to the doctor in Japan who chose to save his arm rather than amputate it as the other consulting doctors recommended.

Ken was awarded the Silver Star; Army Commendation Medal; Air Medal; Purple Heart; Vietnam Service Medal; Vietnam Campaign Medal; Combat Infantry Badge, and three more badges. He states his service was an experience for a young man. Ken was discharged in Colorado, in March, 1969.

Ken was a service representative for Bobcat for 28 years. In prior years, he was a welder, mechanic, and machinist. He is a member of the Methodist Church. He provides cancer patients with transportation so they may receive their treatments. Ken is also on call for repairs and maintenance for Faithful Friend Animal advocates.

Neosho Daughters very proudly honor and recognize Kenneth Gene Keeling as Patriot of the Month and extend to him their deepest appreciation and gratitude for his very dedicated, patriotic service to our great nation.