

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month

June 2019



Harry H. Hope

United States Navy United States Marines

Sponsored by:
O'Fallon
Chapter

Harry joined the United States Navy in 1947 and transferred to the United States Marines in 1948. He completed basic training at Paris Island, SC before being assigned to Camp LeJeune, NC. In 1950, after four months in the Mediterranean, he was sent to Korea. He served as an MP (military police) at additional duty stations in Japan and Camp Pendleton, CA. Following his discharge from active duty, Harry joined the Air Force Reserves in 1964 and served an additional ten years at Scott Air Base, IL, followed by service with the Missouri National Guard until his retirement in 1991.



For his service, Harry earned twenty-two medals, ribbons and citations including the President's Citation, Korean President's Citation, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal and Marine and Air Force Commendations.

Harry's most interesting service experience was being trapped behind enemy lines in the mountains of North Korea for two and one-half weeks. His unit was outnumbered by Chinese troops as they fought in the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir. It was brutally cold with supplies, rations and ammunition running low. A message for tootsie rolls (code word for mortars) was misunderstood and the airdrop was filled with actual tootsie rolls, not the much needed ammunition.

The best advice he received came from his lieutenant colonel who told Harry "Stay in the service. You may get out of the service, but it will never get out of you."

In civilian life, Harry has been married to his wife, Terry, for 54 years. He was a firefighter in his hometown of East St. Louis, IL as well as the director of operations for Webster Grove Schools until his retirement in 1997. He was the original organizer of Greater St. Louis Honor Flight, where he serves

as Chairman Emeritus. The annual Volunteer of the Year award is named the 'Hope Award' in his honor.

He is a member of the Korean War Veterans Association, the Gateway Chapter of the Chosin Few, the 1st Marine Division Association, VFW, American Legion, Retired Enlisted Association as well as his local chapter of POW/MIA, AMVETS and the Disabled American Veterans.

O'Fallon Daughters are very proud of Harry H. Hope and honored to recognize him as Patriot of the Month for his dedicated patriotic service to his community and our great nation.