

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month

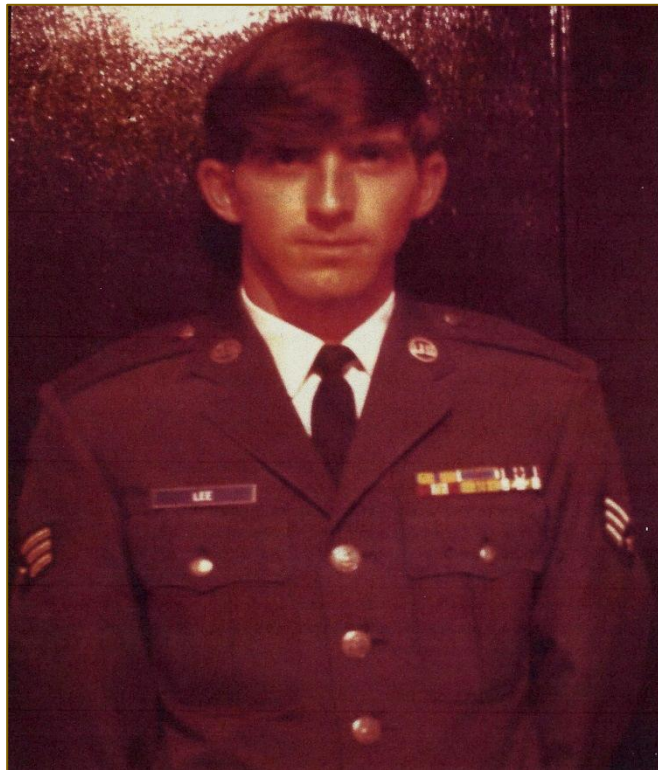
July 2017



Danny Lee

United States
Air Force

United States
Navy



Sponsored by:
Gilead Rupe
Chapter

Danny Lee began his military service right out of high school, enlisting in the United States Air Force in May, 1969. He did his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He had two tours in Vietnam, first in Saigon and later in Da Nang. While in Vietnam, he served as an air freight specialist. Stateside, he was stationed at Whiteman Air Force Base, near Knob Noster, Missouri and Forbes Air Force Base, Topeka, Kansas, where he was discharged in May, 1973.

After a time as a civilian, Danny decided to continue his involvement serving his country. He enlisted in the Air Force Reserve in 1986 and continued his duties as an air freight and transportation specialist. He had the opportunity to do annual two week tours in Japan and Germany. During Desert Storm, his Air Force unit was sent to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to assist active duty servicemen. For convenience, he later transferred to a Naval Reserve unit as a steelworker. After 16 years of Reserve duty, he retired in 2002 as a Petty Officer 2nd Class.

Awards received during his time of service included: National Defense, Air Force Good Conduct, Vietnam Service, Republic of Vietnam Campaign, Air Force Longevity Service, Air Force Commendation, Air Force Reserve Meritorious Service, Air Force Overseas Service Short Tour, Southwest Asia Service, Kuwait Liberation from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, Naval and Marine Corps Commendation, Naval rifle marksman and Naval Pistol Marksman.

After his Air Force enlistment ended, Danny worked in a combine manufacturing plant. Once it closed, he worked for ammunitions manufacturing company. He retired in 2012. Danny and his wife, Connie, have been married for over 40 years. They married shortly after his 2nd tour in Vietnam. They have two adult children. Danny is active in the local American Veterans (AMVETS), on the board of trustees for his church and volunteers time assisting elderly with repairs, etc., helping them to stay in their homes.

On Danny's bucket list was returning to Vietnam to see what the country now looks like. In December 2016, Danny and his daughter, a DAR member, made the trip back to see Da Nang, Hoi An, and Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). They also traveled into Cambodia to see the temples at Seim Reap. Danny found it was interesting that the people in Ho Chi Minh City prefer to call it Saigon. He was amazed how much South Vietnam has changed since 1972 and especially how modern Saigon is today. It was hard to find anything still remaining from the war years.

Gilead Rupe Daughters are proud and honored to recognize Danny Lee as Patriot of the Month for his dedicated patriotism and dedication to service for our great nation.