

## **DSC LIFE MEMBER INVITED TO TAKE “HONOR FLIGHT”**

DSC Life Member, AJ Evans was invited to go to Washington DC in May as part of the Honor Flight Program to honor World War II veterans. AJ was flown, along with 35 other Michigan WWII veterans, to Washington to view the World War II Memorial. Their plane landed in Baltimore to a huge ovation and thanks from citizens and members of all military branches. The group was also taken to Arlington to visit the National Cemetery and witness the changing of the guard at the tomb of the Unknowns. When leaving Reagan airport for the trip home, the District of Columbia Fire Department produced a water salute to honor our Michigan veterans. Firetrucks sprayed huge arcs of water across the runway for the plane carrying the veterans to taxi through on take-off.

AJ was in the US Navy during the war and was trained in Camp Perry, VA and in Fort Pierce, FL. In Fort Pierce, he trained with the then-secret Navy Frogmen (Underwater Demolition Teams). His unit was to carry the Frogmen into the Japanese harbors to clear the waters for safe beach invasion tactics. AJ's LST carried occupation troops to Japan and was able to witness the official surrender at Sasebo. In post-war time, he was a member of the US Merchant Marine and carried supplies to many countries as part of the Marshall Plan.

AJ has been involved with the DSC since the mid-1950s and is an avid skeet shooter. He was given life membership in 2009. From May to October each year, AJ is one of the RSOs for Friday night skeet and trap shooting.



**AJ (center) with two of the servicemen who greeted the Honor Flight upon landing at the Baltimore airport enroute to the World War II Memorial**