



## 2019 Copper 5 Honors Awards Luncheon Wednesday, November 10, 2021



### TSgt Donald Plough Award Recipient TECHNICAL SERGEANT CHARITY A. STUART



Technical Sergeant Charity Stuart is assigned as an active duty guardsman, to the 161<sup>st</sup> Maintenance Squadron, 161<sup>st</sup> Maintenance Group, 161<sup>st</sup> Air Refueling Wing, Goldwater Air National Guard Base, in Phoenix, Arizona. Subject Matter Expert training and mentoring newly assigned personnel. She ensures the directions and policies of the commander are understood and carried out and that Airmen are dedicated to the mission.

Sergeant Stuart works with other enlisted leaders and First Sergeants to oversee the readiness, training, health, morale, welfare, and quality of life of assigned personnel. She is responsible for the maintenance and inspections of KC-135R Stratotanker, aircraft engines. Functions as a local Engine Manager, keeping record in Comprehensive Engine Management System and the Air Force database G081. Overall, she's been a maintainer in the Engine Shop for 17 yrs. and a member of our Copperhead family here in AZ. for the last 14 yrs.

A native of Michigan, Charity Stuart served as a helper to her father in his pursuit of maintenance industry knowledge at Motorcycle Mechanics Institute in Arizona. This foundation fueled a passion for mechanics that led her to the world of aviation. With the helpful guidance of family friends, Air Force alike, her career began at Lackland AFB, TX. Received technical training as a Propulsion System Apprentice at Shepard AFB, TX. First assigned to March ARB, Riverside Ca 752 Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. In 2007, after the birth of her son, Shea, she sought out assignment at the 161<sup>st</sup> ARW in the valley of the sun, Phoenix, AZ to be closer to home.

Stated as her most prideful endowment, is the love and support from her family, her husband TSgt John Locke (Ret.) and son Shea Phoenix. Having more love to give, John and Charity act as host parents, welcoming high school exchange students in to the fold, *Luca-Italy*, *Manel-Spain* & *Jan-Germany*. This program allows students from other countries to earn an education in the United States and perfect their language skills. Selflessly, she volunteers in her community, often as a mentor for Scout Troops as well as helping package food for the holidays. She keeps herself busy around base with additional duties such as helping the First Sgt. and CSS with ceremonies and other needs on base. Particularly, TSgt Stuart has stepped up for numerous deployments, at times alleviating shortfalls, to the Middle East, Europe and Guam, as well as many TDYs stateside our wing has been involved in.

TSgt Stuart serves her fellow airman, ensuring efficiency and wellbeing of both airman and mission needs get met. Sergeant Stuart has served in support of Operations Freedom Sentinel and Enduring Freedom. Sergeant Stuart's military career includes positions within

the 161st Air Refueling Wing and 161st Maintenance Squadron as a Sexual Assault and Prevention Victim Advocate, Additional Duty First Sergeant, member of the Copperhead Retirement Committee, Motorcycle Safety Instructor, and Secretary for the Wing Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion Council. Distinguishing herself, she was awarded an Achievement medal. Assisting a Pease aircrew after making an emergency landing, supporting the needs of the aircrew, ensuring they felt at home. All while working with her team to fix their aircraft before mission deadlines expired.

Very outgoing, she is a friendly individual who is always motivated and concerned for the welfare of others. Notably, the 161st is grateful to have Charity Stuart as a Copperhead.

**EDUCATION:**

- 2004 Aerospace Propulsion Technical Systems
- 2008 Airman Leadership
- 2014 Non-Commissioned Officer Academy
- 2015 Associates of Applied Science in Aircraft Maintenance Technology, CCAF

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. August-October 2004, Basic Military Training School, Lackland AFB, TX
2. October 2004-January 2005, Aerospace Propulsion Technical Systems Specialist Course, Shepard AFB, TX
3. February 2005-December 2007, Aerospace Propulsion apprentice, 752<sup>nd</sup> AMXS, March ARB, CA
4. December 2007-September 2012, Aerospace Propulsion Journeyman, 161<sup>st</sup> MXS, Phoenix, AZ.
5. September 2012-April 2021, Aerospace Propulsion Technician Specialist, 161st ARW, Phoenix, AZ

**MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Air Force Achievement Medal	Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal
Meritorious Unit Award	Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold
AF Outstanding Unit Award 3 oak leave clusters	Border 4 oak leave clusters
Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal 4 oak leave clusters	AF Longevity Service 2 oak leave clusters
National Defense Service Medal	Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 1 'M' Device 1 oak leave clusters
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal 2 oak leave clusters	USAF NCO PME Graduate Ribbon 1 oak leave clusters
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal	Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (Rifle)
Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal	AF Training Ribbon

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS**

- Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States, Member
- Secretary for the Wing Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion Council
- Copperhead Retirement Committee

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROMOTION**

- Airman First Class – March 18, 2004
- Senior Airman – May 01, 2006
- Staff Sergeant – September 06, 2008
- Technical Sergeant – January 11, 2014