



**Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
Patriot of the Month  
August 2013**



**Richard C. Held**

Sponsored by

**Olde Towne Fenton Chapter**

Richard Held joined the Alaska National Guard in December 1982. He went to boot camp graduating on his thirtieth birthday 18 May 1983. He was sent to Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul, Illinois, for sixteen weeks of training in aircraft propellers and engines. He returned to Alaska with the 176<sup>th</sup> Composite Air Group assigned to the propeller shop and for additional training. He flew in the C-130H model aircraft all around the world.

His first assignment was Perth, Australia. They were placed in the bush housed in an abandoned airbase with some Special Op's people for parachute training. Quite a few more trips included going to South America to fly

Embassy runs and take Special Op's people to jungle bases. A number of deliveries were made to Nicaragua, San Salvador, Peru, Brazil, Columbia, Venezuela, Uruguay, and numerous other countries; the Andes were great to view.

They participated in missions to the waters between South America and Africa to drop sonar trackers to spot Soviet Subs. He was sent on missions during the wars of the 90's in Bosnia, to Operation Northern Watch (Iraqi no-fly zone) 6 times, stationed in Incirlik, Turkey, participated in Operation Provide comfort, assigned to the Somalia relief mission and Hurricane Katrina. He completed his career after his fourth trip to Afghanistan.

Awards and medals Richard earned are 2 Air Force Commendation Medals, 3 Air Force Achievement Medals, Army Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Award, 6 Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards, 9 Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medals, National Defense Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, 2 Afghanistan Campaign Medals, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, 2 Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbons with Gold Border, 6 Air Force Longevity Service, 3 Air Forces Reserve Medal with 3 'M' Devices, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (Rifle), Air Force Training Ribbon, and the NATO Medal.

TSgt Richard Held served with the 176<sup>th</sup> CAMS with C-130H models, 210<sup>th</sup> Rescue Squadron with MH60L then G model Helicopters, 939<sup>th</sup> Rescue Squadron with MH60 G helicopters which became the 939<sup>th</sup> ARW (BRaCC) Base Realignment and Closure Commission, flying KC-135R model Refuelers, 943<sup>rd</sup> Rescue Group, Special Op's and Combat Rescue Squadrons.

The Olde Towne Fenton Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution are proud to nominate Richard Held Patriot of the Month for his service to our country.