

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE AIR RESCUE ASSOCIATION RICHARD T. KIGHT AWARD
TO CAPTAIN JASON E. SNYDER**

Captain Jason E. Snyder distinguished himself as an expert in the combat employment of the HH-60G from 1 August 2006 to 31 July 2007 through outstanding support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM, and his ability to integrate and execute with Joint and Coalition partners to enhance the Combat Search and Rescue Mission. In support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, Captain Snyder scramble launched from an austere forward operating base in Afghanistan with an Army AH-64 Apache in support of a Task Force KNIGHTHAWK nighttime medical evacuation mission to rescue United States Army personnel injured by a blast from an improvised explosive device. After executing a night vision goggle takeoff in zero illumination conditions with minimal mission details, he sent the Apache ahead to secure the landing zone. Captain Snyder then piloted the HH-60G to the injured personnel despite the loss of effectiveness of the night vision goggles due to the brightly burning vehicles and the formation of a large dust cloud thirty feet above ground level. Upon landing, the helicopter began to slide toward the ground team due to the severe slope of the terrain, so Captain Snyder immediately took off through the dust cloud and directed the team to move to a more suitable site. With the helicopter critically low on fuel, Captain Snyder landed at the new location, again enduring "brown out" conditions, and successfully recovered all eight injured soldiers, despite receiving enemy fire on departure. In addition to Captain Snyder's outstanding efforts in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, he coordinated and led the squadron's preparation and deployment to Iraq just six months after returning from Afghanistan, including participation in Exercise JADED THUNDER. The distinctive accomplishments of Captain Snyder reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.



Even though Captain Snyder was unable to attend, we were pleased to have his parents with us for the Award ceremony.

PREVIOUS KIGHT AWARD WINNERS

2006 Eric T. Trocinski	1996 Crew of AF Rescue 986	1986 William H. LeRoy
2005 Trevor J. Boyko	1995 Crew of AF Rescue 26114	1985 Carl R. Binford
2004 Bryan Creel	1994 Crew of AF Rescue 811	1984 Bruce C. Johnston
2003 Keith A. Sullivan	1993 Keith A. Sullivan	1983 Lee A. Roberson
2002 Robert H. Walker	1992 Karen A. Pickering	1982 Joe Martinez
2001 Randall R. Nelson	1991 Michael A. Wayt	1981 Richard G. Flaherty
2000 Kevin P. Mullins	1990 Michael Callahan	1980 Jay G. Jinks
1999 John McGonagill	1989 Terry L. Muncy	1979 Louis DeMartino
1998 Robert G. McNeil	1988 Dell T. Hamilton	1978 Robert L. LaPointe
1997 Crews AF Rescue 206/212	1987 Timothy P. Malloy	