FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 4, 2020

MEDIA RELEASE

ARMY WOMEN’S FOUNDATION TO INDUCT 16 ARMY WOMEN INTO THE HALL OF FAME, MARCH 11TH AT THE WOMEN IN MILITARY SERVICE FOR AMERICA MEMORIAL

WHAT: US Army Women’s Foundation Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
As our nation gears up to celebrate Women’s History Month, the US Army Women’s Foundation will recognize extraordinary Army Women by inducting the 2020 class of Army women into the Army Women’s Hall of Fame.

Airing live on the Army Women’s Foundation Facebook page, ceremony coverage is set to begin at 2:00 p.m. ET. A record number of guests are expected to attend the ceremony, including Keynote speaker, General (Ret.) Dennis Reimer, former 33rd Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army.

Photos and video footage of the ceremony and inductees will be provided upon request. For photos, biographies and more information about the Class of 2020 Inductees and Induction Ceremony visit: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/sk3vpj1wvmi969t/AADB2V6wJAuig3KVTFZaWj2Fa?dl=0

WHEN: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 | 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Interviews at the ceremony are welcomed. To set up phone or remote interviews, email Amy Fisher at amy@fisherevents.net.

WHERE: Women in Military Service for America Memorial, Memorial Ave & Schley Dr., Arlington, VA 22202

ABOUT THE INDUCTEES:

COL Mary Louise Milligan-Rasmuson (Posthumous)
- 5th Director of the Women’s Army Corp. In her long career of service, she fought for women’s equal rights and equal pay. She worked tirelessly to bring WAC women service members into full and equal ranks for the Armed Forces.

MG Jessica Wright, USA, Retired
- Former Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness until her retirement in April 2015. Major General Wright retired from the Army in 2010. Her 35-year career of military service culminated with her final assignment as The Adjutant General of Pennsylvania and commander of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

MG Dee Ann McWilliams, USA, Retired
- 29 years of distinguished service and lead efforts to ensure that the Women in Military Service for America Memorial would survive and that the service of military women would continue to be honored

MG Jan Edmunds, USA, Retired
- 30 years of distinguished service and blazed many trails for others to follow where she became the first woman to hold innumerable jobs within the Ordnance career field.

MG Peggy Wilmuth, USA, Retired
- First female and nurse to serve as Deputy Surgeon General for the Army Reserve

COL Edna Cummings, USA, Retired
- Instrumental in obtaining long overdue recognition of the outstanding of the 6888th Postal Directory Battalion

COL Lillian Anita Dixon, USA, Retired
- Showing exemplary performance in command and leadership positions, COL Dixon's assignments reflected preparation for increasing responsibility as a policymaker, women's advocate and executive leadership and management.

COL Dorene Hurt, USA, Retired
- A 31-year military career, assumed a pioneer role as the first woman and medical service officer to serve as the Chief of Staff of the Army Service Chair in the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF).
CW5 Cheryl Monroe
- First African American female Chief Warrant Officer 5 in the ammunition field

CW5 Wendy Wayman
- Currently serves as the most senior Warrant Officers in Signal Intelligence field

SGM Karla Frank, USA, Retired
- First Army woman to attain the rank of Sergeant Major (E-9) in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s (JAG) Corps

MSG Elizabeth Anne Helm-Frazier, USA, Retired
- Instrumental in obtaining long overdue recognition of the outstanding of the 6888th Postal Directory Battalion

MSG Tanya Whitney, USA, Retired
- Pioneer and trailblazer in Army Aviation Maintenance

Chaplain (COL) Karen Meeker
- One of the elite group of the first Army women chaplains

Chaplain (COL) Donna Weddle, USA, Retired
- Army trailblazer and holds the distinctions of being the first WAC to later serve as an Army Chaplain and is the first woman chaplain in a Combat Arms Brigade

Chaplain (LTC) Karen Diefendorf, USA, Retired
- First female chaplain to become a paratrooper

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

SGM Claudette Williams, USA, Retired
- Founded the Women Veterans and Military Family Services Museum in Mount Pocono, Pennsylvania

Sarah Roberts
- Helped launched a partnership with the Department of Defense to provide LinkedIn Premium to military spouses during each permanent change of station (PCS) and once again upon conclusion of military service.

Stacy Pearsall
- Air Force photographer, who earned the Bronze Star Medal and Air Force Commendation with Valor for combat actions in Iraq. She started the award-winning series Veterans Portrait Project (VPP) in 2008 while rehabilitated from the combat injuries sustained in Iraq. While spending hours in VA waiting rooms surrounded by veterans from every generation and branch of service, she was compelled to honor and thank them in the only way she knows how, photography. Since 2008, she’s traveled coast to coast with the VPP covering 82 cities in all 50 states and has documented over 7,500 veterans in over 189+ engagements.

ABOUT THE LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

During Hall of Fame Reception, the U.S. Army Women’s Foundation 2020 Legacy Scholarships will be awarded. The Army Women’s Foundation Legacy Scholarship program supports education for Army women and their children through tuition assistance for technical certificate programs, community college coursework, and undergraduate and graduate degrees. In the past 11 years, the U.S. Army Women’s Foundation has awarded over $450,000 to over 200 recipients through the Legacy Scholarship program. These scholarships would not be possible without the generous support of organizations such as Prudential, KBRwyle, Pritzker Military Foundation Geico, and Walmart.

ABOUT THE U.S. ARMY WOMEN’S FOUNDATION - Honoring, Empowering and Connecting

The U.S. Army Women’s Foundation is the premier center for educational excellence, the national network for today’s Army women, and a dynamic advocate for telling the history of Army women. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to recognize and honor the service of women in the Army and to support the Army Women’s Museum. For more information, visit: www.awfdn.org.