

Certificate to Accompany the Award of the



Air Commando Hall of Fame

Inducted on this Day of October 26th, 2019 to

John A. Smith

Master Sergeant John A. Smith has dedicated a lifetime of service to the Air Force Special Operations Command. For 46 years MSgt Smith has supported Air Force Special Operations as an aircrew gunner, Pararescueman, instructor, evaluator and mentor. Initially MSgt Smith served as a gunner on the AC-130 A/E/H gunship eventually cross-training to become a Pararescueman. MSgt Smith was instrumental in the development of the rigging alternate method Zodiac (RAMZ) delivery package allowing the deployment of Pararescueman far away from the standard rescue profile. Additionally, MSgt Smith was vital to the development of the modern day Special Tactics Training Squadron. He was on the ground floor of the initial recruiting, assessment and selection phase of Special Tactics Airmen. MSgt Smith also forged the way for the initial Advanced Skills training models; assisting the AFSOC command move from vision to application. Furthermore, after retirement from active duty, Mr. Smith continued to coach, train and mentor Air Commandos. He served as an initial cadre member helping to stand-up the AFSOC intelligence formal training unit where he reshaped the air-centric intelligence focus into a ground and maritime focus for special operations intelligence professionals. His operational expertise developed the sharp focus of intelligence Airmen supporting combat operations around the globe. Finally, Mr. Smith continues to serve as a Senior Intelligence Analyst to the AFSOC Director of Intelligence providing operational credibility to intelligence products relating to Russia, the Baltics, and the Levant. The distinctive accomplishments of Master Sergeant John A. Smith reflect great credit upon himself, Air Force Special Operations Command and Air Commandos of every generation.