

Certificate to Accompany the Award of the



Air Commando Hall of Fame

Inducted on this Day of December 7th, 2018 to

John W. Varner, Jr.

Chief Master Sergeant John W. Varner, Jr., has distinguished himself in the performance of outstanding service to the United States, Air Force Special Operations Command, and Special Operations for over 36 years. During his service, Chief Varner served in a myriad of aircraft maintenance assignments, and was responsible for leading maintenance production and generation efforts on MC-130E Combat Talon, AC-130H Spectre, MC-130H Combat Talon II, AC-130U Spooky, MH-53 Pave Low, CV-22 Osprey, and AC-130J Ghost Rider Special Operations aircraft platforms. His uncanny ability to excel compelled his selection as the lead maintainer on numerous Joint training exercises and classified Joint Chiefs of Staff-directed missions. He is a veteran of an encyclopedia of Special Forces supported operations, including Operations BAT, JUST CAUSE, DENY FLIGHT, UPHOLD DEMOCRACY, UNITED SHIELD, DELIBERATE FORCE, JOINT ENDEAVOUR, INDY, JOINT FORGE, ALLIED FORCE, and UNIFIED RESPONSE. As the AC-130U Logistics Test Superintendent, Chief Varner was one of the cornerstone logistics architects for AFSOC's newest weapon system, the AC-130U Spooky—a 13 aircraft \$1.2 billion acquisition program. His concerted efforts on this cutting edge program proved essential in achieving “first flight” for the platform, first live fire for the 25-millimeter gun, and on-time delivery of the first production aircraft to Hurlburt Field, Florida. Chief Varner's current efforts as an Air Force Civil Servant earned him the 2014 Lieutenant General Leo Marquez Award for the best Civilian Aircraft Maintenance Manager in the Air Force. The singularly distinctive accomplishments of Chief Master Sergeant John W. Varner, Jr reflect great credit upon himself, Air Force Special Operations, and Air Commandos of every generation.