

## **Chief Master Sergeant Cindy McNally, USAF (Retired)**

Cindy entered the United States Air Force 14 July, 1975 and attended Basic Military Training (BMT) at Lackland Air Force Base (AFB), San Antonio Texas. She was assigned to the 3743<sup>rd</sup> WAF Training Squadron. She was awarded Honor Graduate from BMT before being assigned to Chanute AFB, Illinois, entering training as an Aircraft Structural Maintenance Specialist.

During technical training, Cindy was selected as the student leader of her class. Upon graduation, she was assigned to RAF Upper Heyford, United Kingdom. While assigned to perform maintenance on F-111E aircraft, Cindy was first woman to volunteer and operate a bomb lift. She went on to set the United States Air Force, Europe (USAFE) record for fastest time uploading tanks onto aircraft.

Cindy was reassigned to San Antonio Air logistics Center and became an Aircraft Battle Damage Repair (ABDR) instructor, teaching US Air Force and US Air National Guard personnel in ABDR repair techniques. Additionally she worked on C-5, B-52 and OV-10 aircraft performing depot level repairs. She graduated from Noncommissioned Officer Leadership School earning the Commandant Award, Distinguished Graduate and Speech Awards.

While assigned to McChord AFB, Cindy ran Structural Flight line Maintenance for C-141s and C-130s. She rewrote the technical data on inspecting industrial equipment and was later assigned to Quality Assurance. She graduated from Noncommissioned Officer's Academy as a Distinguished Graduate and Speech Award Winner.

When assigned to Kirtland AFB, NM. Cindy was the Fabrication Branch Chief, overseeing personnel working on seven different types of aircraft. She engineered the state of the art Fabrication center for helicopters and taught Aircraft Battle Damage Repair. She was selected as NCO of the Year, 1992.

During her assignment to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea; Cindy established the Aircraft Battle Damage Repair program, the Aircraft Decontamination Program, and was the Fabrication Flight Chief for three separate types of aircraft. She was selected as a subject matter expert for Aircraft Crash Recovery, ABDR and augmented the Pacific Air Forces Inspector General team. She was selected as the Maintenance Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year for Osan Air Base.

While assigned to the First Fighter Wing, Langley Air Force Base, Cindy was the first female Maintenance Group Chief Enlisted Manager at the base. She led over 1500 personnel in providing maintenance to three squadrons of F-15 Eagles. She authored the first ever water removal techniques for F-15 honeycomb panels, initiated the first Structural Working group for the Combat Air Forces, and was deployed to Al Kharj, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to lead the bed down of USAF forces following the bombing of Khobar Towers. She graduated from the Senior Noncommissioned Officer's Academy as a Distinguished Graduate.

Cindy retired in 2003 with numerous medals, awards and achievements. She has since been a defense consultant, specializing in the Middle East. She is married, has two children and two grandchildren and resides in Yorktown, VA.