

Stephanie Eriacho's Biography

Stephanie Eriacho, a First Nation Indigenous native from Zuni Pueblo, New Mexico, enlisted in the United States Navy in December 1996. Following completion of basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois, she completed Aviation Machinist Mate "A" school in Pensacola, Florida in April 1997. Upon graduation, she reported for duty at Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron One (VQ-1), home ported in Whidbey Island, Washington. Her follow-on tours include Marine Fighter Attack Training Squadron 101 (VMFAT-101) Miramar, CA. Back to Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron One (VQ-1), Consolidated Maintenance Organization Ten (CMO-10), Patrol Squadron 40 (VP-40), Naval Air Station Whidbey Island Honor Guard (NASWI), Patrol Squadron (VP-46). Stephanie Eriacho's decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (three gold stars), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement medal (Silver Star), Coast Guard Special Operations Service Ribbon, various service and campaign awards. She has also earned the Enlisted Aviation Warfare Insignia.

After her naval retirement in September 2012, she was immediately hired by Lockheed Martin as a mechanical engineer. As a mechanical engineer she deployed to Afghanistan to upkeep and maintain the Persistent Threat and Detection Aerostat (PTDS) lighter-than-air tethered aircraft. During her deployment, she was attached to Swedish, German and US Special Forces Forward Operating Bases (FOBs). Currently Stephanie is now settled nearby Ft Drum and is a student attending Jefferson Community College in Watertown, NY. She is dual matriculating in Physical Education and Homeland Security.