

Chief Master Sergeant Jenny W. Pappas distinguished herself by outstanding service to the United States of America, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Air National Guard during a military career spanning 28 years from 1980 to 2008, and has continued to faithfully serve as a volunteer.

Chief Pappas began her Air Force career in the Utah Air National Guard. Following her initial enlistment, the then Senior Airman Pappas moved to Pennsylvania, and joined the 111th Tactical Air Support Group at Willow Grove for the remainder of her career.

Chief Pappas held various positions in the Wing during her career including Training Technician, Customer Service, Human Resources and Services Superintendent. She used her extensive military experience and civilian connections to significantly improve services to the 111th and to the local community.

In 2000, she was awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for her service to the local community. This included coordinating food and clothing donations for the underprivileged, and improving civilian/military relations. By involving the unit in local community events hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and various schools, support was provided to the Veterans Administration, Prison Fellowship and Community Help organizations' annual Christmas gift-giving events.

At the 111th she became an integral part and driving member of the Wing. Chief Pappas' accomplishments were primarily centered on educating and developing Airmen to ensure the readiness of personnel in preparation for deployment. She humbly accepted the challenge of corresponding with each and every one of our service members' families while they were deployed; putting loved ones at ease knowing the 111th could be relied upon should anything transpire during their service members deployment. Chief Pappas became the integral force behind the 111th Family Readiness Group (FRG). She was so extremely effective in this endeavor, that two months after her retirement from the military, Chief Pappas was elected by the group's membership to be the President of the FRG. She has continued to serve in this position since her retirement in 2008.

During 2005, after much encouragement and support from Wing leadership, then SMSgt Pappas sent in her nomination package to the National Guard Bureau to compete in the Services Chief program. Chief Pappas was one of only three candidates who reached the final interviews. Upon being selected for this singular vacancy, Sergeant Pappas became the first female in the 111th to reach the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. She was also the first Services female Chief Master Sergeant in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Chief Pappas' service to the Air Force and surrounding community were significant during her military career but they did not end when she retired. As an active volunteer since her 2008 retirement, Chief Pappas has logged over 400 annual service hours supporting the 111th Retirees Activities Office. Add her additional service hours raising money from community partners to assist our troops in joint support with the USO, Chief Pappas continues to provide outstanding service to our Wing's military and civilian communities.

The singularly distinctive accomplishments of Chief Master Sergeant Jenny W. Pappas during a lifetime of distinguished service reflect great credit upon herself, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, warranting her induction into the Pennsylvania Air National Guard Hall of Fame.