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512th Airlift Wing, Dover Air Force Base, Del.

Reserve flier recognized for 10,000 hours of safe flight

Staff Sgt. Andria J. Allmond
512th AW Public Affairs

For achieving 10,000 mishap-free flying hours during her Air Force Reserve career, Senior Master Sgt. Kathy Lambert, 326th Airlift Squadron flight leader supervisor and loadmaster instructor, received recognition at the base theater here March 3.

A Liberty Wing member since 1983, Lambert kicked off her AF Reserve career in the 512th Maintenance Group; and, in 1989 she started taking to the air upon transferring to the 326th Airlift Squadron. She launched her flying career on the C-5 Galaxy, charting more than 8,500 flying hours, before transitioning to the C-17 Globemaster, in which she registered more than 1,700 hours.

She credits the enforcement of standardized procedures when conducting aircraft operations in attaining this feat.

"Conducting operations safely really is the number one priority," she said. "You never compromise safety."

And, that is something which, according to Lt. Col. Dave Arthur, 326th AS commander, does not always come easy in the world of flying.

"Inherently, moving airplanes is not a safe thing," he said. "We do our best to mitigate risk while keeping the mission going."

The decoration is so rare that very few in the wing have achieved this recognition.

According to Lt. Col. Donald Whitley, chief of the 512th Airlift Wing Safety Office, the wing has awarded the 10,000-hour certificate to two other members in the past four years, both of whom have since retired. Currently, Lambert is the only active flier at Dover AFB to sport this patch on her flightsuit.

Lambert's achievement may be seen as especially remarkable considering the military operations involved in accumulating the time.

"I started flying for Operation Just Cause, which was in Panama," said Lambert. "Honestly, I've flown for pretty much all major military engagements including (Operation) Desert Storm, (Operation Iraqi Freedom) and (Operation Enduring Freedom)."

In fact, the loadmaster was soaring over Italy, returning from a mission to Afghanistan, when she tallied up the 10,000th hour. The crew, with whom she was flying, all signed a t-shirt with their names and a few congratulatory words. Lambert received the shirt along with her official recognition during the March unit training assembly.

Arthur, who presented Lambert with the certificate and shirt, said she serves as not only as a representative of good safety practices, but also as a mentor to other Airmen.

"Sergeant Lambert accomplished all of this as a traditional reservist," he stated. "That's important to point out, because it illustrates her commitment and professionalism to this mission and to the wing. She's self-motivated and serves as a great mentor to her peer group."



Senior Master Sgt. Kathy Lambert, 326th Airlift Squadron flight leader supervisor and loadmaster instructor, receives a certificate of recognition and patch from Lt. Col. Dave Arthur, 326th AS commander, March 3, 2012, at the theater here. She accumulated more than 10,000 hours of mishap-free flying during her Air Force Reserve career. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Andria J. Allmond)

Just a click away

Armed Forces receive free NCAA March Madness access
<http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123293232>

AF expands drug testing, include abused prescription drugs
<http://www.afrc.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123292692>

AF Reserve plans to change about 3,000 jobs in FY13
<http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123292854>

AF marathon registration deadline approaching
<http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123294077>

New dental benefits for TRICARE TAMP beneficiaries
<http://www.tricare.mil/mediacenter/news.aspx?fid=742>

Next month's Motorcycle Safety Day to be biggest yet
<http://www.dover.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123292740>

Access Volunteer Reserve System through AF Portal

Air Force Reserve Command and the Air National Guard have partnered to bring the second generation Volunteer Reserve System. VRS2 is intended to be a repository of available volunteer opportunities for AFRC and ANG Airmen, O-5 and below. It can be accessed through the Air Force Portal via the ARCNet application. VRS2 will now not only provide Airmen ready access to AEF volunteer opportunities, it will also help them to pursue the proper permissions from the start and give the member web-based visibility of the entire application process. VRS2 does not replace wing vetting processes or forms. However, it does mandate that key vetting

Nine Liberty Wing members selected for major

Announced March 14, the following wing captains were selected for promotion to the rank of major.

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| - Justin Botts | - Marci Matthews | - Christopher Sweet |
| - Nicholas Franz | - Jessica Oberlander | - Scott Tullis |
| - Marnee Losurdo | - Jason Pennypacker | - Chadd Webster |

