

Recommendation for  
The SHIELD OF SPARTA -- HEROINE OF THE INFANTRY  
For  
MRS. [REDACTED]

Mrs. [REDACTED] has selflessly devoted the past 20 years of her life to an Infantry husband, various Infantry units in peacetime and in combat, the Infantry Branch, and the United States Army. She has led Family Readiness Groups (FRG) at every level from Squad to Company and has been an integral part of Family Readiness at the Battalion, Brigade, and Post levels. Her twenty year commitment to the Infantry community and its families has been, and continues to be, commendable, gracious, and honorable in every way. I am honored to have served with her.

Uncertain of the commitment that lie ahead, [REDACTED] married an Infantry Private assigned to A Co 1-505 PIR, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC in 1988. After hearing fellow wives speak of the hardship that is commonly associated with marrying a young Paratrooper in a rapid deployment unit, [REDACTED] decided to get involved with the FRG and make a difference in the lives of her unit's families. During the next four years Lisa served countless volunteer hours as a Platoon FRG Leader. Her ability to establish rapport and build an independent team of wives able to allocate resources and develop courses of action for the Company Command Team proved invaluable. [REDACTED] impact was most evident during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm from 1990-1991 where she worked in conjunction with the Rear Detachment Commander for over 9 months. [REDACTED] was personally recognized by the Company and Battalion Commanders for her efforts upon departure.

Additional volunteer FRG assignments include Platoon and Company FRG Leader assignments while her husband was assigned to the B Co 4<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion at Fort Benning, A Co 1-509 PIB (OPFOR) at Fort Polk, and two Company Commands with E 1-50 IN, ITB at Fort Benning and B 3-325 AIR, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division at Fort Bragg. Most notable among these assignments was [REDACTED] steadfast hand and calm, competent demeanor she displayed while dealing with the passing of timely and accurate information when numerous Paratroopers under her husband's command became Wounded-In-Action (WIA) during Operation Iraqi Freedom 2 and 3. At the completion of the deployment Lisa was once again recognized for her outstanding contribution to the unit, its Paratroopers, and – perhaps most importantly – its families.

Today, [REDACTED] is currently involved with supporting her husband's efforts to teach, coach, and mentor the future leadership of our great Army here at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Her engagements and professional development discussions with First Class Cadets, particularly those who have branched Infantry, leave no doubt in their mind that the Family Readiness Group is a combat multiplier and life in the Infantry both unique and rewarding – for both the Soldier and his family.

For the past two decades, [REDACTED] has devoted her life in support of the Infantry, its units, and their families – all the while asking nothing in return. She is a true patriot whose sacrifice and commitment to our unique way of life is representative of thousands of Infantry spouses who deserve special recognition for having the courage to send us into harm's way – and for being there during our victorious return.