



OUTSTANDING AIRMAN OF THE YEAR 2008



COMPANY GRADE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

MAJOR MICHAEL R. REED

Major Michael R. Reed was named the 2008 Company Grade Officer for the 179th Airlift Wing. He is the Chief of Equal Opportunity for the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield, Ohio. Major Reed was born in Columbus, Ohio on June 2, 1964. He attended Grandview Heights High School and graduated with honors in 1982. He lettered in football, wrestling and track. He was a member of the school Thespian society, and editor of the school yearbook.

Major Reed enlisted in the Ohio Army National Guard during his senior year of high school on the delayed entry program. He completed basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and was selected as Soldier of the Cycle. He attended his initial military occupational specialty, aircraft hydraulics mechanic training, at Chanute Air Force base, Rantoul Illinois, completing his training as a distinguished graduate. He was assigned to the 73rd Brigade, Aviation detachment as a helicopter mechanic. In 1985, he cross-trained as a jet engine mechanic and attended a five month training course in Fort Eustice, Virginia. He was selected as his class honor graduate.



In 1988, Major Reed separated from the Army Guard. Ten months later, he enlisted in the Air National Guard as a jet engine mechanic with the 121st Tactical Fighter Wing, working on the A7-D. He served with the 121st during their transition to the KC-135R, learning another engine system. In August 1995, he transferred to the 179th Airlift Wing as a Communications Plans and Program specialist. He was selected as the NCO of the Year for the State of Ohio in 1996. In October 1998, he was selected for the position of Military Equal Opportunity officer with the 179th Airlift Wing. He received his commission in April of 1999, graduating with honors and serving as the wing commander of his graduating class. He attended the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute in January 2002, and was selected as an honor graduate. He completed the Basic Personnel Officers Course in September, 2003.

In his civilian career Major Reed has over 16 years experience in Information Technology. He currently is an Information Technology Application Manager with State Auto Insurance, managing a staff of over 25 personnel developing commercial lines web portal applications. Major Reed has served as an assistant coach for a variety of St. Paul Catholic Church sports teams. He graduated from the Ohio State University in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation. He has multiple civilian certificates and designations in the Information Technology field. He is a current private pilot holding a single engine land rating, and is actively pursuing his Instrument Rating. He is the owner of a company

providing consulting services in security and self-defense. His military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Outstanding Unit Award (2 devices), and the Ohio Distinguished Service Medal.