



OUTSTANDING AIRMAN OF THE YEAR 2009



FIRST SERGEANT OF THE YEAR

MASTER SERGEANT HEIDI A. BUNKER

Master Sergeant Heidi A. Bunker is a First Sergeant assigned to the 179th Logistics Readiness Squadron, located at the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield, Ohio.

After graduating high school, Bunker attended Tiffin University on an athletic scholarship. In 1991, after completing one year at Tiffin University, she enlisted in the Ohio Air National Guard. During Basic Military Training Bunker served as an element leader for her squadron. Upon completion of that training and technical school, she was assigned to the 179th Aerial Port Squadron as an Air Transportation Specialist. Immediately upon her return, she enrolled at North Central State College and completed her associate degree. In 1996 Bunker completed her Bachelor of Science degree from Ashland University, then in 2009 received her Master of Education in Community Counseling at Xavier University. She completed The First Sergeants Academy in March 2007, the Senior Non-Commissioned Academy correspondence course in 2008, and attended a three week rigger school in Little Rock Arkansas.



Bunker has participated in temporary duty assignments such as; Mission of Love, Joint Forge in Germany, and Operation Hurricane Katrina both at home station and forward deployed to New Orleans. Her most recent deployment culminated exceptional service as First Sergeant, 379 EAMXS/746 AMU. In addition to outstanding LOE's, Bunker received commendation from her commander for "professionalism and excellence" in the performance of her duties. Specifically, her attention to the smallest details on behalf of the Airmen in her charge, to include multiple emergency leave situations and a special court-martial. Her performance helped to ensure the integrity of the justice system. Bunker's military awards and decorations include the Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal with a star device, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Training Ribbon, Ohio Faithful Service Ribbon, Ohio Special Service Ribbon, Ohio Award of Merit, Ohio National Guard Basic Training Ribbon and was outstanding the 179th Airlift Wing's NCO of the year from 1 July of 1997- 30 June of 1998.

Bunker's civilian positions include the Children's Home of Cincinnati, Program Coordinator; City of Cincinnati, Program Coordinator; SparkPeople Service, Director; and Cincinnati Children's Hospital, ADHD/Intake Coordinator. Each position requires exceptional organizational and leadership skills in

both management of personnel and development of both internal and external processes. Bunker actively participates in her community garden club, volunteers her time completing various tasks for elderly community members and is a proud member of Chi Sigma Iota.