



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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By Staff Sgt. Balinda O'Neal Dresel

Alaska Air Guardsmen receives Richard Frank Military Service Award

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska – Alaska Air National Guard MSgt. Tanna Carter was presented with the Richard Frank Military Service Award by the Alaskan Federation of Natives at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center in Anchorage Oct. 20.

Carter is a member of the 168th Wing at Eielson Airforce Base in Fairbanks.

The Gin'tith (Richard Frank) Military Service Award recognizes Alaska Natives who demonstrate a strong commitment and willingness to serve in the U.S. armed forces. Individuals nominated for this award may be involved in the armed forces on active duty, in the reserves, in the National Guard or as a veteran who was honorably discharged from active duty or reserves.

The award is in honor of the late Richard Frank, a prominent Athabascan advocate and leader, who passed away in September 2012 at age 85.

In the 1940s, Richard served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and served in the Pacific theater as an airplane mechanic. Richard played a significant role in the formation of the Alaska Native Veterans Association, a group dedicated to advocating on behalf of Alaska Native veterans. Richard's service in the military is partially credited for his character and philosophy of providing positive service to his people.

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PHOTOS

1. **Attached pdf** includes story and a small selection of low-resolution photos for viewing on screen.
2. **Flickr link** includes an event album with the complete selection of full-resolution, free downloadable images. (May not be accessible from all military computers.)
2. **DVIDS link** includes story and selected full-resolution photos. (Primarily for media, DVIDS is accessible from .mil computers.)