



Colonel Tammy D. Street Committed to Service

By Jenna Caputo | Photos by Angela Mia Photography and Contributed by Tammy Street

Colonel Tammy D. Street grew up on a farm outside of Dennis, Kansas, where she often rode 3-wheelers with her brother and friends and played softball for fun. When it came time for college, she was looking for something to help pay her way through, and a friend told her about the Air National Guard (ANG). “As an 18-year-old, I was drawn to the opportunity to get money for college through the GI Bill,” she says. “Although I didn’t really know what I was getting into and didn’t plan to have a career in the military, my experience was great. I felt that my hard work and attention to detail were valued and rewarded and I grew to love the military!”

She started in the lowest enlisted rank in the military—Airman Basic, E-1, working as a Personnel Specialist at McConnell Air Force Base in Kansas. She completed her BA degree in Management at Sonoma State University and decided to be a full-time officer. Tammy applied to Active Duty Air Force Officer Training School and spent four years as an Acquisitions Officer.

Just before attending Basic Military Training (boot camp), Tammy met her husband, Jon L. Street, while he was serving in the Navy. Growing up in California, Texas and Oregon, Jon’s world revolved around tennis until he joined the Navy on the GI Bill, looking for an adventure. “Being a part of the nation’s Armed Forces seemed like an honorable way to serve and learn discipline and tools that have served me well in civilian life,” he says. Jon worked six years as a Sonar Technician on Fast Attack Submarines (USS Pogy and USS Parche) before moving into the IT field as a

Certified Novell Engineer, obtaining other certifications along the way. He eventually worked in the K-12 education and health care fields as the Network Administrator for the Johnstown School District and the Client Technologies Supervisor at St. Peter’s Health Partners.

As their family grew, Tammy chose to leave active duty. They decided to move to Clifton Park to be near Jon’s brother and family, thinking they would keep up with the military trend of moving every three to four years. Twenty years later, they are still here!



Tammy joined the 109th Airlift Wing as a Drill Status Guardsman, working one weekend a month with two weeks of Annual Training. She had just received her Master of Business Administration from Auburn University Montgomery and continued her education by correspondence, completing Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, Air War College and the Reserve Component National Security Course.

Once the kids were in school, she went back to work full time, working her way up to her current position as the Mission Support Group Commander at the 109th Airlift Wing of the New York Air National Guard. The Mission Support Group (MSG) is comprised of 390 Airmen responsible for providing logistics, civil engineering, security forces, force support, communications and contracting support for the employment of the only ski-equipped aircraft in the Department of Defense providing tactical airlift in remote polar regions. They ensure Airmen are trained, equipped and ready to deploy worldwide to support state and national objectives. The MSG and Wing are proud of the support they provide to the National Science Foundation (NSF) research in Antarctica and Greenland.

Tammy is honored to work with her crew. “Across the diverse skill sets, members of the MSG have incredible work ethic and a tremendous volunteer spirit. Besides supporting the federal mission of deploying to Antarctica and Greenland to support NSF, and to CENTCOM and AFRICOM to support the Global War on Terrorism, our members are also the first to volunteer to support the local community and state during natural disasters. We’ve provided support to the citizens of New York State in every natural disaster, including Hurricanes Irene, Lee and Sandy, snowstorms, flooding and in the wake of COVID. I am incredibly proud of the men and women I serve with!”

Tammy has found it to be a fantastic place to work and especially loves the challenge of pushing her team to achieve their best every single day. “I love seeing people grow to achieve challenges that they thought were out of reach. It’s an honor to recognize their outstanding performance and achievements that are above and beyond the job description. I also enjoy talking to younger members and learning about their backgrounds, goals and what drew them to the ANG. And, it is awe-inspiring to see people work together to overcome adversity and to meet challenging mission sets. We all take a lot of pride in supporting our wing’s unique aircraft and Arctic/Antarctica mission sets!” Their motto? Serving with PRIDE: Professionalism, Respect, Innovation, Discipline, and Enthusiasm.

In 2017, Tammy deployed to Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar to serve as the Chief of the Logistics Readiness Division for the Combined Air Operations Center to support our country’s operations in the Middle East. Her team ensured supplies and equipment were delivered to numerous operating locations.

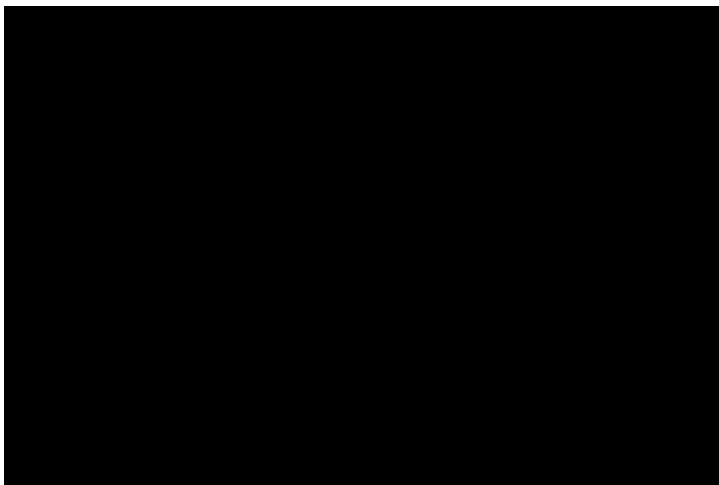
In addition to this mission, her travels over the years have brought her to Afghanistan, Jordan, Turkey, Kuwait, Antarctica, New Zealand and Greenland, as well as stateside in northern

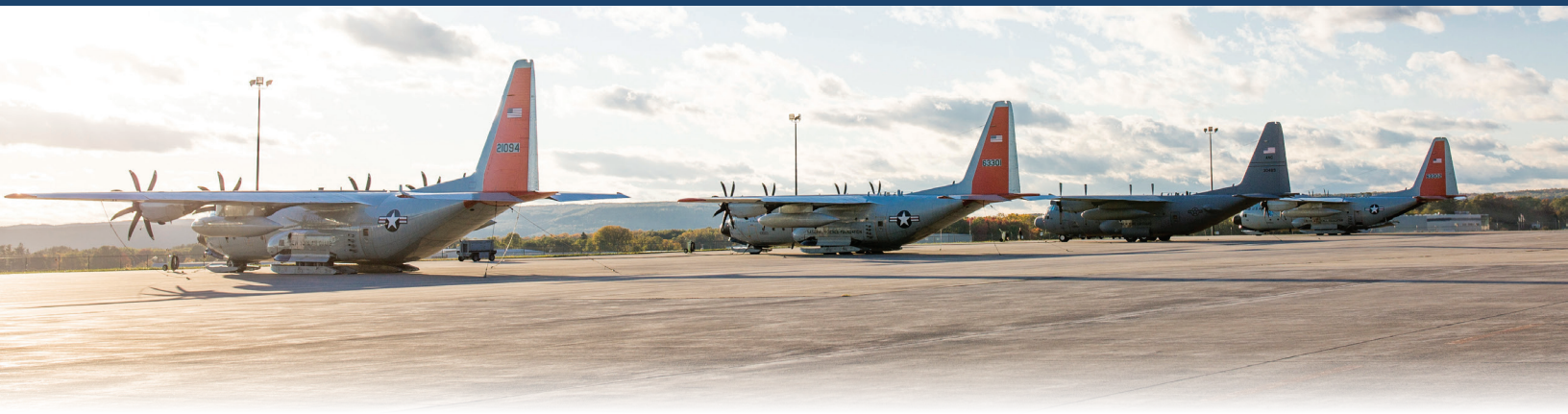


California, Kansas, Alabama, and of course, here in Clifton Park. She has also received many awards over the years: Meritorious Service Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation medal with 3 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Achievement medal with 1 oak leaf cluster, Antarctica Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Humane Service to New York State Medal with 3 devices. This past spring, she was awarded a Woman of Distinction award at the 112th Assembly District Women of Distinction event hosted by Assembly Woman Mary Beth Walsh.

The Street family’s lives are now ingrained here as part of the Capital District. “We came here not knowing we would be here as long as we have been. Living in Clifton Park and the Capital District has offered us many rewarding opportunities. We’re very grateful for our lives here!” says Tammy.

Jon now works at The Naval Nuclear Laboratory at Knolls (KAPL). “It is me coming full circle because I have the privilege of serving the fleet I was once a part of,” he says. “My 20 years in IT and my time in the Navy gives me a deeper understanding of our mission and why we do what we do to support the US Navy and our nation’s interests around the world.”





Jon has also kept up with his love of tennis. A member of the Alabama State Championships team in 1998, he also served as an umpire and has been extensively involved with the Shen Tennis Team and the Team Tennis program here in the Capital District. He was a founding member and president of the Shen Tennis Booster Club, and all four of their kids played on the Shen tennis team while in school. In his spare time, Jon enjoys riding motorcycles and serving as the family photographer.

Their four boys are all graduates of Shenendehowa. Daniel (28) is also a veteran of the NY Air National Guard as a Radio Operator with the 139th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (also part of the 109th Airlift Wing). He now lives in Niskayuna and works at KAPL as an Advanced Software Developer, developing software that supports Naval Nuclear Propulsion. Joshua (23) is a senior at Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, studying Cyber Security. He is on a full-ride scholarship for Collegiate Esports, playing the mid-lane role on the League of Legends team. Jon Michael (JM) (20), is a sophomore at Columbia College, studying Computer Science, also on an esports scholarship, playing top-lane on the League of Legends team. Matthew (18) is a freshman at Hudson Valley Community College and works in the kitchen at The Mill at Round Lake. They also have two mischievous cats—Snowball & Bandit.

Tammy's niece, Jennifer Street, is part of the military as well, serving as a Crew Chief on the LC-130H at Stratton Air National Guard Base, ensuring the aircraft is mission-capable ready. She is working on her bachelor's degree and looking forward to being on the flightline full time after graduation. Watching the aircraft take off is always an exciting moment for her. "Crew Chiefs take pride in knowing that our work has a direct impact to getting the aircraft in the air. Additionally, Crew Chiefs get to travel with the aircraft, and it is an amazing experience to visit new places while maintaining the aircraft," says Jennifer. "The primary reason why I joined the military was my family. I grew up in a military family—my father and uncle are navy veterans, my mother is an Air Force 'brat' and currently works for the Naval Nuclear Laboratory. My aunt inspired me to challenge myself, and I aspire to be as strong and confident as her. Receiving an education is a major goal of mine, so I am able to go to college while serving my country and making my family proud."

"As a family, we have a strong commitment to service to community and country," says Tammy. "We have been very fortunate and proud to serve in the military and after!"

Outside of work, Tammy enjoys yoga, hiking, playing cards and board games and spending time with family and friends. They serve in various ministries with their church as well, but Jon's favorite quote from Ronald Reagan—"It's amazing what you can accomplish when you don't care who gets the credit"—seems to sum up their family well. They just strive every day to support those around them, treating all with dignity and respect.

The Streets are looking forward to getting past the pandemic and are especially eager to have their kids home for Christmas this year, since there isn't much they can do together in the meantime without the two week quarantine. But through it all, they are so grateful to have landed here in the Capital District. "This area, and particularly Clifton Park, is an oasis from much of the turmoil in the world. It has been a wonderful place to raise our family!"

