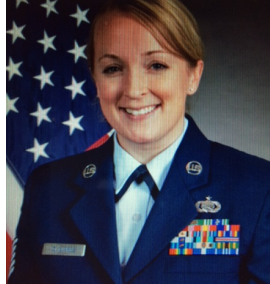


2014

Woman Veteran of the Year



TSG Lynette Olivares

TSGT Lynette Olivares honorably deployed three times in support of the mission and continues to serve. While deployed, Sgt Olivares was a sexual assault victim advocate and prides herself on supporting her sisters in arms. She deployed in support of Operation New Dawn to Arifjan, Kuwait in May 2011 until May 2012. As the Public Affairs Supervisor in Kuwait she assisted in the organization and training of over 50 public affairs representatives resulting in national exposure. She managed all social media websites with a 300% increase of followers/viewers. She briefed and coordinated media escorts for nearly 80 media members and ensured exposure for the mission of the 1/34 BCT Red Bulls, to include the end of the war in Iraq in December 2011.

In July 2008 thru June 2009 she deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom to Balad, Iraq as the Public Affairs Specialist. Her role as the Senior Production Supervisor for field correspondence for MN Hockey Day in Iraq resulted in worldwide exposure. December 2004 thru February 2006 she was part of US Forces in Kosovo as a Public Affairs Specialist where she produced nearly 50 stories for a bi-weekly distribution called the "Guardian." She worked with contractors for printing negotiations as well as performing mission essential tasks.

Sgt Olivares was awarded a Mid-West Emmy Award for the production of "Serving Our Troops" in 2012 and for MN Hockey Day in Iraq, 2009. She received the Thomas Jefferson Award for Photojournalism in 2006 2009, and 2011. She strives to learn every day and continuously seeks development opportunities. She is an expert in her field and has been working full time for the National Guard since March 2008. While working for Joint Force Headquarters as a Visual Information Specialist, she produced 2 dozen military funeral documentary discs for families of fallen Minnesota military member and was lauded by the National Guard Bureau. She is certified from Brown College and earned her Bachelors from St Cloud State.

Sgt Olivares' ability to bring awareness to the mission is unparalleled. She continually perfects her photojournalism skills and volunteers at an animal shelter. She is one of Minnesota's most outstanding woman veterans. Her honorable service is a shining example of leadership, female veteran support, and community involvement.

