

# LIFE & STYLE

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F Section



Linwood A. Miller stands under a C-47 cargo plane in the Air Mobility Command Museum at Dover (Del.) Air Force Base, where ceremonies were held to award

Reading Eagle: Ryan McFadden

The Airman's Medal was established by Congress on 6 July 1960 to take the place of the Soldier's medal which, up until that time, had been awarded to Air Force personnel. The Soldier's medal was established by Act of Congress on 2 July 1926, for award to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States, or of a friendly foreign nation, who while serving in any capacity with the Army of the United States distinguished himself by heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy. The degree of heroism, while of a lesser degree than that required for the Silver Star, must be above the call of duty and clearly set the individual apart from his comrades. Award of this medal is not intended to be made solely on the basis of having saved a life. For acts of lifesaving or attempted lifesaving, it is required that the action be performed at the risk of one's own life.

#### MILITARY CAREER:

October 1953	Joined the 148th Fighter Squadron, Spaatz Field, Reading Regional Airport, PA.
27 March 1954	Officially sworn in.
7 June 1955	Joined the Regular USAF.
1 February 1959	Released from the USAF and transferred to USAF Reserve.
October 1961	Reentered the Regular USAF, on the Cuban Missile Call Up stationed in France.
August 1962	Released from the regular USAF, transferred back to the USAF Reserve.
June 1964	Reserve unit disbanded in June 1964, rejoined the PA ANG, Harrisburg, International Airport. Served in 148th Aero Med, 168th, 193d SOW.
1 January 1989	Honorably Discharged from the PANG, transferred to the USAF Reserve. Called up on standby status during the Gulf War. Remained on standby status until 1994.
31 December 1996	Officially retired.

On 3 June 1957, a C-47 ferrying personnel and equipment to radar sites throughout Alaska crashed into the dense forest near Fairbanks after the plane's right engine failed. Airman Third Class Miller led a four man rescue team into the fiery wreckage to evacuate the wounded passengers and crew. He repeatedly led teams of survivors into the burning crash site, finally freeing both the Flight Navigator and Radio Officer who were trapped beneath heavy equipment. Even after a blast threw him from the wreckage, Airman Miller continued to assemble and administer first-aid to the passengers and crew until emergency crews arrived.

*Linwood A. Miller, 1955.*



*Linwood A. Miller, 2006.*