

Enlisted Hero Walk Lackland AFB



Master Sergeant Richard I Simmon

No photo available

Silver Star

Vietnam

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Staff Sergeant Richard Lee Simmon (AFSN: 18769254), United States Air Force, for gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force while serving with Detachment 2, 40th Air Rescue and Recovery Squadron, Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Base, Thailand, in Southeast Asia on 27 June 1972. On

that date, Sergeant Simmon, as Flight Engineer on an HH-53C Rescue Helicopter, voluntarily and at great risk to his own life, penetrated a hostile and heavily defended area of North Vietnam to effect the rescue of a downed American airman. His professional skill and determination in manning his exposed hoist operator's position to recover the survivor and an assisting crewman while under intense hostile ground fire, were invaluable to the successful completion of this most hazardous mission. By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Sergeant Simmon has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.