



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
(SEVENTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER)
TO
STAFF SERGEANT JOHN J. ELDRIDGE

Staff Sergeant John J. Eldridge distinguished himself by extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight as a HH-53 Rescue Helicopter Pararescue and Recovery Technician in Southeast Asia on 1 November 1970. On that date, Sergeant Eldridge flew an extremely hazardous mission deep into hostile territory in the attempt to rescue an American pilot downed by hostile fire. In spite of adverse weather conditions and the constant threat of hostile ground fire, Sergeant Eldridge accomplished this highly intricate and hazardous mission in support of free world forces combatting aggression. The professional competence, aerial skill, and devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Eldridge reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

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