



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS  
TO  
AIRMAN SECOND CLASS JOHN PIGHINI

Airman Second Class John Pighini distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as an HH-3E Pararescue Specialist in Southeast Asia on 28 February 1967. On that date, Airman Pighini successfully recovered two downed friendly pilots in extremely hostile territory. With dauntless determination and with complete disregard for his own safety, Airman Pighini directed his pilot to a hover position over the downed pilots. While the helicopter was under fire by hostile forces, Airman Pighini continued to expose himself until the two survivors were safely aboard the helicopter. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Airman Pighini reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

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