



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Deborah Funk
DF Communications Group
410-446-4183 | dfunk@dfcommunicationsgroup.com

New President of Army Women's Foundation is West Point Graduate and Senior Army Aviator

WASHINGTON, March 18, 2016 – Brig. Gen. (ret.) Anne Macdonald, a combat veteran and graduate of the first gender-integrated class of West Point, is the new leader of the U.S. Army Women's Foundation.

The Army Women's Foundation board of directors elected Army Brig. Gen. Macdonald to serve as the foundation's president. She assumed her duties March 15 in Washington, D.C., at the foundation's eighth annual summit.

The Army Women's Foundation is a non-profit organization that supports the women who serve or have served in the U.S. Army. Its programs preserve history, facilitate discussion, fund research and award scholarships for post-secondary education.

"I am absolutely honored to have the opportunity to lead this organization," Brig. Gen. Macdonald said. "This is an opportunity to empower women, to connect with them, to respect them and to honor their service."

Brig. Gen. Macdonald was a senior Army aviator whose distinguished military career began on a historic note: She graduated the United States Military Academy in 1980, the first class that included women.

Until her retirement in 2011, Brig. Gen. Macdonald served over 30 years in the U.S. Army, leading and building highly effective teams. She is qualified as a UH60 Blackhawk pilot, a paratrooper and is air assault qualified. Brig. Gen. Macdonald served 4 years in the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and 18th Airborne Corps, 7 years in the Republic of Korea, 2 1/2 years in Germany before, during and after the fall of the Iron Curtain and 6 years as a General Officer.

Brig. Gen. Macdonald succeeds retired Army Maj. Gen. Dee McWilliams, who led the Army Women's Foundation for more than seven years as it expanded its programs that preserve the past and shape the future. Maj. Gen. McWilliams leaves the foundation to serve as president of the Women In Military Service for America Memorial Foundation.

"The Army Women's Foundation will be in exceptionally capable hands," said Maj. Gen. McWilliams. "Anne's strong leadership skills and enthusiasm will serve the foundation well."

"As Anne is a graduate of the first gender-integrated class of West Point, it is particularly fitting that we welcome her during Women's History Month," said Peggy Trossen, executive director of the Army Women's Foundation.

Brig. Gen. Macdonald completed two combat tours. The first was in Operation Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq. She completed her second combat tour in Operation Enduring Freedom, serving as the Deputy Commanding General for the NATO Training Mission to develop police in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Her key assignments in the Army include serving as the Deputy Director of Operations, Military Command Center, Joint Chiefs of Staff, The Pentagon; Deputy Commanding General, 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson, Colorado later designated Division West, First Army and Fort Carson; and Chief of Staff, United States Army Reserve Command, Fort McPherson, Georgia.

Brig. Gen. Macdonald continues to train high-performing organizations after her military career. She serves as an executive coach and seminar facilitator with True Growth Leadership. Along with her husband, Maj. Gen. John Macdonald, USA, Ret., she also volunteers to facilitate an annual West Point Ethics and Leadership Seminar for the faculty members of 45 High Schools in the DC Metro area.

About the Army Women’s Foundation:

The U.S. Army Women’s Foundation is the premier center for educational excellence, the national network for today’s Army women and a dynamic advocate for telling the history of Army women.

The U.S. Army Women’s Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization headquartered in Fort Lee, Virginia. The mission of the Army Women’s Foundation is to promote public interest in the Army and recognize and honor the service of all Army women. Learn more at <http://awfdn.org>.

#####