

Spotlight On

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U.S. Air Force Reserve Senior Master Sgt. Cathy Ann Uetrecht  
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Hyndman, Pa., native, U.S. Air Force Reserve Senior Master Sgt. Cathy Ann Uetrecht is the command chaplain assistant for the U.S. Northern Command.

As the command chaplain assistant, Uetrecht is responsible for ensuring the free exercise of religion for members within the command and managing and implementing processes essential to executing chaplain service core processes ? religious observances, pastoral care, and advice to command leadership regarding spiritual, religious, ethical and moral concerns. Additionally, she manages and applies personnel, logistics, and professional resources to support chapel-based, unit, medical and deployed ministries.



U.S. Air  
Force  
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Sgt.  
Cathy  
Uetrecht  
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?My job supports homeland defense by caring for our personnel and their families, and for their spiritual needs, so they are better prepared for their military missions,? said Uetrecht, who was called to active duty at USNORTHCOM when the command stood up Oct. 1, 2002.

The career field badge she so proudly wears reminds her of the importance of her work.

?The (badge) depicts the expression of faith as a living reality,? she explained. ?Faith is symbolized as a dove against the background of a rainbow, the universal sign of promise and hope. The badge symbolizes the chaplain service support career field mission of supporting the religious needs of the military community in peace, war, national emergencies and military contingencies.?

The best part of the job is helping people, said the 22-year Air Force Reserve veteran. ?Anytime military personnel are away from their family, it is difficult on them,? she said. ?We in the chaplain service not only support military personnel?s right to the free exercise of religion, but we also look for ways to boost command moral.?

Uetrecht?s responsibilities as a chaplain assistant go hand in hand with the characteristics imparted by her mentor, her father.

?He instilled in me the values that I live today ? the importance of doing a job to the best of my ability, helping and caring for others and taking care of your family.?

Uetrecht will return to her civilian position as a project coordinator in Sacramento, Calif., in November after serving at USNORTHCOM for the past 13 months.

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