

2024 Cañon City Memorial Service

George Solli

On September 17, 2024, an audience of about twenty 12TFW Association Members, their spouses and local townspeople met at the Colonel Leo S. Boston Park in Cañon City, Colorado, to pay respects to the 12TFW men and Fremont County veterans whose names appear on the honor wall. Names of identified attendees are:



- Bill and Cathy Kennedy, 12TFW Association (Ft. Collins, CO)
- Jim and Judy Goodman, 12TFW Association (Eagan, MN)
- Danny and Kelly Lynch, 12TFW Association (Delmar, NY)
- Kim and David Troboy, 12TFW Association (Russellville, AR)
- George Solli, 12TFW Association (Denver, CO)

- Charlotte and David Burrous, 12TFW Association (Cañon City, CO)
- Mayor and Mrs. Preston Troutman (Cañon City, CO)
- Jim Hogan (Cañon City, CO)
- John Emmerling (Cañon City, CO)



A spray of flowers was set before the 12TFW panel of the honor wall. Then to start the ceremony, **Savannah Cobler**, a student in the *Encore Choir* at Cañon City High School, sang the *National Anthem*. George Solli followed by presenting highlights of the Twelfth Tactical Fighter Wing's history. George stated that the purpose of the memorial service was to honor 12TFW members who lost their lives on active duty. Making the point that the patriots remembered on the memorial wall were grieved by their fellow airmen and Cañon City



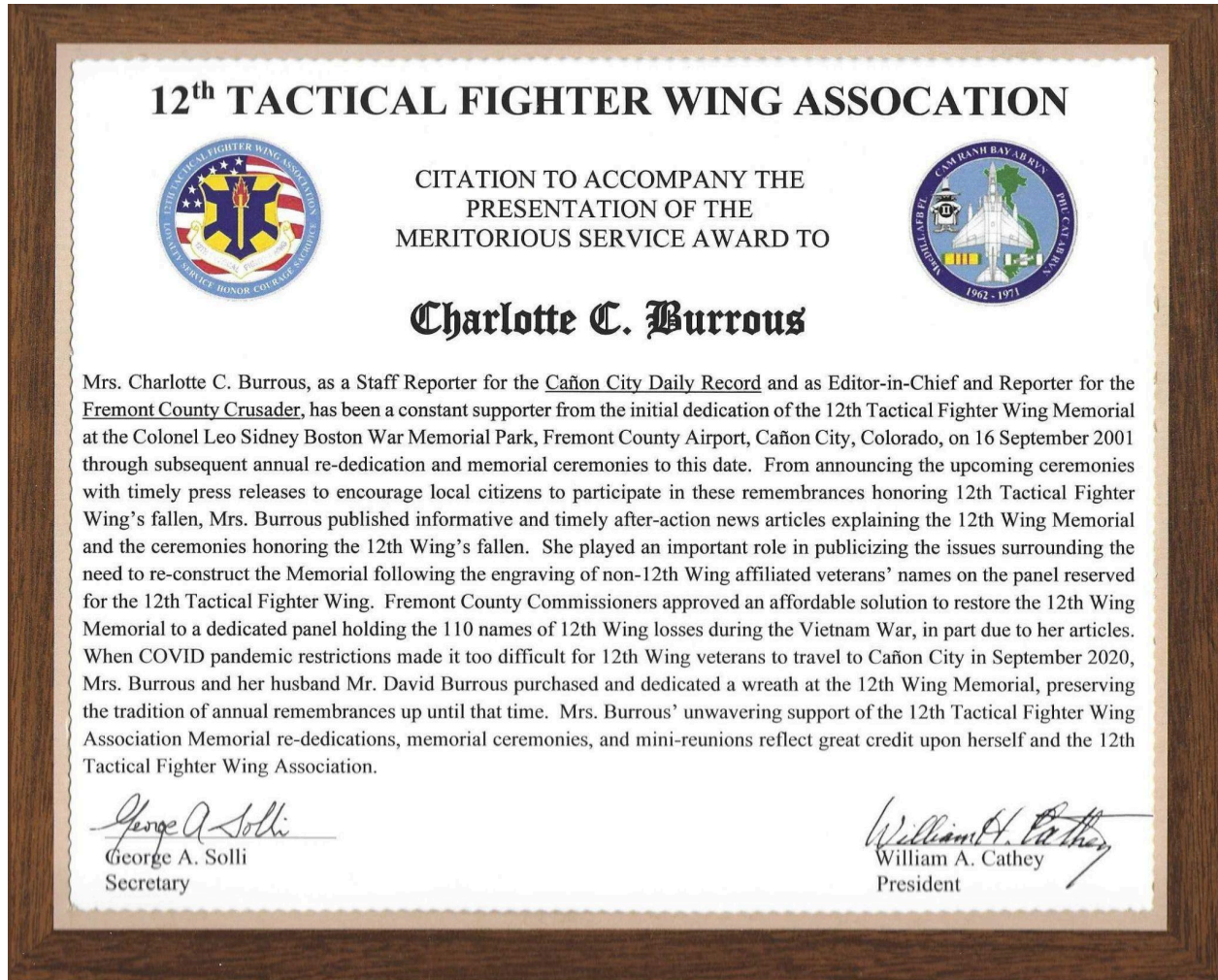
citizens, the speech read: “We are acutely aware that most of those whom we honor today were cut down early in life, denied the fulfillment of love, satisfying careers and entertaining pastimes. We know their bereaved loved ones perpetually feel the pain of their absence. This monument speaks to our deep respect for their sacrifice.”

All 110 members’ names engraved on the honor wall were read by four Association Members.



When the reading was concluded, **Tim Grayben**, from the American Legion, sounded *Taps* with a bugle.

Before ending the ceremony, Charlotte Burrous was presented a **Meritorious Service Award**, voted on by the Association’s officers. Charlotte has, in her work on local newspapers and more, been a stalwart supporter of the 12TFW Association.



After the ceremony, some of the attendees drove to nearby Florence for lunch. It was a chance to talk before beginning long journeys home. It also gave us an opportunity to better meet local resident Jim Hogan, a spry pre-Vietnam Air Force veteran, who was delighted to be back in Air Force company.



Note: Subsequent to this picture of our panel being taken, Brick “K” at bottom-left has been re-inscribed to:

**SEP 5, 1967
Carl D. Miller
Marshall, MO**

<https://shorturl.at/z6xNW>

Double click on the new image to enlarge and scroll.