



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

Lieutenant Commander LONNIE L. MIXON UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Lieutenant Commander Lonnie L. MIXON distinguished himself by gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force as Rescue Crew Commander of an HH-3E helicopter in Southeast Asia on 1 July 1968. On that date, Commander MIXON penetrated a heavily defended area of North Vietnam to attempt the rescue of an injured downed pilot. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Commander MIXON twice established a hover in the face of hostile fire to attempt the recovery of the injured airman. Twice Commander MIXON was forced to withdraw due to the intense hostile ground fire that had driven off another rescue helicopter and substantially damaged his own aircraft. By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Commander MIXON has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Coast Guard.