

MASTER SERGEANT EVELARDO “ED” DE LEON JR.

Master Sergeant Evelardo De Leon Jr. is the United States Air Force’s F-35A Lightning II Heritage Flight Team Superintendent, 56th Fighter Wing, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. As the F-35A Heritage Flight team chief, he is responsible for representing Air Education and Training Command, Air Combat Command, United States Air Force, Department of Defense, and the United States of America at 16 air shows annually. He leads nine F-35A Heritage Flight Team enlisted members and oversees all maintenance actions performed on the Lockheed Martin-produced F-35. By doing so, he ensures Heritage Flight pilots are equipped with a safe and effective jet to execute their mission of showcasing the Air Force’s premier fifth-generation aircraft for millions of spectators each year.

MSgt De Leon was born in San Antonio, Texas. He attended Parker High School, in Parker, Arizona, graduating June 1995. Only six days later, he enlisted into the United States Air Force. His career has included assignments as a C-141/C-5/C-17 En-Route Specialist, C-130E Hydraulic Craftsman/Dedicated Crew Chief, C-17 Aircraft Maintenance Craftsman, FTD Instructor, E-8C Hydraulic Section Supervisor, Weapons System Advisor to the NY ANG and the F-35A Crew Chief Section Chief. He has deployed in support of Operation Southern Watch, Operation Desert Fox, Operation Phoenix Scorpion I/II, Operation Allied Force, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn Operation Odyssey Dawn, and Operation Unified Protector.

EDUCATION

2001 Airman Leadership School, Yokota AB, Japan
2006 Associate Applied Science Degree, Aircraft Systems Maintenance Technology, CCAF
2008 Instructor of Technology and Military Science, CCAF
2008 Master Instructor Certificate, AETC
2008 Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Peterson AFB, Colorado
2009 Occupational Instructor, CCAF
2010 Bachelors of Science in work force education and development, Southern Illinois University

ASSIGNMENTS

1996 – 1998, 637th AGS - C-17 Hydraulic Systems Journeyman, Charleston AFB, SC
1998 – 2002, 730th AMS - C-17/C-5/C-141 Hydraulic Systems Craftsman, Yokota AB, Japan
2002 – 2005, 314th AMXS - C-130E Hydraulic Systems Craftsman/Dedicated Crew Chief, Little Rock AFB, AR
2005 – 2010, 373rd TRS Det. 12 - C-17 Master Instructor/Flight Chief, McChord AFB, WA
2010 – 2012, 461st MXS JSTARS - Hydraulic Section Chief, Robins AFB, GA
2012 – 2014, 105th MXS – Weapon System Advisor, Stewart Air National Guard Base, NY
2014 – 2015, 56th AMXS - F-35 Crew Chief Section Chief, Luke AFB, AZ
2015 – Present, 56th AMXS - F-35 Heritage Flight Team Superintendent, Luke AFB, AZ

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Air Force Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters
Air Force Achievement Medal
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with five oak leaf clusters
National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal
Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border
NATO Medal
NCO of the Year 373rd TRS, McChord AFB WA, 2008
Airman of the Year (tenant unit) Yokota AB, Japan, 1999
Airman of the Year 630th AMSS, Yokota AB, Japan, 1999

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Airman: 7 Dec 1995
Airman 1st Class: 29 Jan 1997
Senior Airman: 29 Sept 1998
Staff Sergeant: 1 Apr 2001
Technical Sergeant: 1 Dec 2006
Master Sergeant: 1 Oct 2012

(Current as of November 2015)

