

Helicopter Dedication

The UND Helicopter Program has added its 5th R44 to its fleet. Wednesday, May 26th, UND Aerospace and the UND Helicopter Department will be dedicating the newest helicopter to our very own Mrs. Trudy Soli. The helicopters unique tail number (N586TS) honors Trudy's commitment to UND and ROTC. 5 represents UND's 5th R44; 86 is the year Trudy started here at UND; the TS is – you guessed it! – Trudy Soli. We are so excited for this and can think of no one more deserving than our very own ROTC “mom”!



ARMY ROTC

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From the Professor of Military Science

Greetings from North Dakota and your Fighting Hawks ROTC Battalion! As all of you already know, this last year has been challenging and developing the future leaders for our Army has been no exception. The group of young leaders have risen to the challenge and exceeded expectations, allowing us to continue with in-person classes, labs, and physical training for most of the school year. At one-point, Grand Forks had the highest COVID positivity rate in the nation, but rates within our Cadet population were less than the local community. Dealing with Cadets in quarantine, social distancing, hybrid classes and MSIII's headed to Cadet Summer Training gave these Fighting hawks the VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous) environment that will help forge their leadership well before they put on their gold bars!

Despite the above challenges, there have been some significant changes implemented this year. A more deliberate “Cadet Run” program has seen the Cadet leadership making more of the decisions and coordinating for facilities, equipment, and support than in the past. Empowering the Cadets to take charge and giving them a safe environment to make decisions and learn from their mistakes has forced them to make decisions that are risk informed, coordinated and Mission Command focused. The MSIVs have established some great new programs to help with retention; they have introduced a Cadet Promotion

Program that allows MSIs to go in front of a formal promotion board. Additionally, they have established a knowledge board that all new Cadets must pass prior to receiving their Fighting Hawks unit patch. As a result, both have increased the knowledge and competency.

Two other initiatives that have been implemented are the Cadet Mentorship Program and our Sponsorship Program. The mentorship program aligns students with a mentor to have throughout the school year. We align based on academic degree to provide an upperclassman that can help work through the pitfalls of their degree as well as help with ROTC areas as needed. The sponsorship program is something new where we have current Cadets sponsor any new incoming student – regardless of the new students MS level. This gives incoming students a jumpstart on what to expect, talks about scholarship opportunities and helps prepare for life at UND and within ROTC.

Finally, this year we celebrated Trudy's 34th year serving Army ROTC and most importantly, the Cadets. What a special honor it was to nominate and have her win the William E. Depuy award from Cadet Command. This award recognizes a single person for their contributions to ROTC and we were able to present the award to Trudy at our Spring Awards Ceremony.

COVID 19 and College Life

Along with the rest of the country, we have been navigating the COVID 19 pandemic the best we can. Here at UND, we were very lucky to have been able to meet in-person this past school year, albeit with risk mitigation factors in place, and proceed with our training. Cadets have done a fantastic job adapting to the changes and operating in the Hybrid state of online and in-person classes, while still maintaining a positive attitude and getting things done – as is the UND Army ROTC way!

We have Moved

There have been a few changes to the University over the 2020 – 2021 school year. The build of the new Student Union; the Nistler School of Business being built; and many different cosmetic updates to the campus. Due to some exterior landscaping updates and a new roof for the armory (yay!), our staff offices have been moved to Twamley Hall for the duration of construction. We still have limited access to the armory and will be returning to operations when school starts in the fall.



While out at Cabelas one night with a friend, Cadet Carlson noticed an elderly woman looking confused and lost.

A scary situation for anyone, but one could argue even more-so for those members of our vulnerable population. While out with a friend at Cabelas one night, Cadet Carlson and his friend noticed an elderly woman looking confused. After a little bit, Cadet Carlson decided to approach her and ask if everything was ok.

Upon asking, the woman told him that she had been out driving and it had gotten dark and now she was afraid she would not be able to find her way home. Cadet Carlson asked her if there was anyone whom she could call for assistance and the woman informed him that the only person around would be her husband, but he was out hunting. Rather than leave the woman to fend for herself, Cadet Carlson offered to drive her car to her home while his friend followed them.

Gladly the woman accepted, and Cadet Carlson assisted her home and ensured she made it into

her house safe and sound. The next day, the woman reached out to the university to let them know of Cadet Carlson's act of kindness and, as good news usually does, it made it all the way to the Assistant Dean of Aerospace, Dr. Elizabeth Bjerke and UND's President Armacost who made sure to personally thank Cadet Carlson for his actions.

“I would have wanted someone to help her if she was my grandmother.”

LTC Mathre recognized Cadet Carlson in front of the battalion as an excellent example of how a Cadet should act, even when no one is watching. Cadet Carlson simply stated, “I would have wanted someone to help her if she was my grandmother.” Cadet Carlson was nominated by 3rd Brigade as Cadet of the Week for his deeds and was selected by Cadet Command as the Hero of the Battlefield for January 2021.

Cadet Carlson is currently an MSIII

Cadet Carlson: Going above and beyond

Taking the time to assist an elderly woman who got lost, Cadet Carlson personified Selfless Service and got her home safely

studying UAS – Helicopter under the FTP program here at UND. He is a member of our Ranger Challenge Team – and buddy competition team – and is always setting a positive example for fellow Cadets.

Cadet Carlson will be attending Cadet Summer Training this summer and returning to be the Fighting Hawks Cadet Battalion Commander. Way to go, Cadet Carlson!





Steven Ray Huss:

January 8, 1966

To

June 25, 2020

It is with deep sadness that we share the news of UND Army ROTC Alumni, Steven Huss, and his passing.

Steven Ray Huss, age 54 of Park Rapids, MN, passed from this life on Thursday, June 25, 2020 in the comfort of his home surrounded by his loved ones.

Steven was born on January 8, 1966 to George Martin and Shirley Anne (Hornbacher) Huss in Jamestown, ND. His early boyhood years were spent in Jamestown until, as a young teenager he moved with his family to Fargo, ND. He graduated from Fargo North High School where he was a member of the hockey team with the Class of 1984.

He graduated from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks in 1988 where he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. On August 4th, 1986 Steven was united in marriage to Laura Poling (also an alum from UND Army ROTC) in Bismarck, ND.

Their union was blessed with three children: George, Axel, and Batiste. In 1996, he transferred from the United States Army into the United States Air Force. He served as a HH60 Pilot earning the rank of Colonel over the course of his career. He earned his Masters of Science Degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in 2002.

He served throughout the world at Fort Sam Houston, TX; Fort Irwin, CA; Landstuhl, Germany; Holloman AFB, NM; Kadena AB, Japan; Osan AB, Korea; Hickam AB, HI; Naval Air Station, Keflavik, Iceland; RAF Lakenheath, UK; Joint Air Command Suffolk, VA; Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies Honolulu, HI. He retired in 2015 after 27 years of combined active duty service with the Air Force and Army and he and his wife made their home on Portage Lake, north of Park Rapids, MN. He volunteered as a Helicopter Crew Member for the Minnesota DNR fighting wildfires in MN and volunteered as a Zamboni operator and other capacities at the Park Rapids Ice arena.



New Staff Members

We welcomed two new civilian staff members to the Fighting Hawks family this year! Alay Apuzzo is our new Human Resource Assistant and started in April. She is a Navy vet with 11+ years of Military Service and 15 years of Federal Service. Daniele Keller is our new Recruiting Operations Officer and started in July. She is a UND Army ROTC Alum (class of 2014) and spent just over 5 years on Active Duty before medically retiring and returning to Grand Forks. We are so happy to have them on the team!





Get Your Sioux Patches Here!

We are currently taking donations for our retired Sioux Patches, Pins, and HFTP Patches. 100% of the proceeds go to the Cadets Raiders Fund that supports things from military balls, extracurricular events, traveling opportunities and more! We accept Venmo or you can mail in cash/check. Recommended donations are as follows:

Sioux Patch: \$20

HFTP Patch: \$20

Patch & Pin: \$30

All 3: \$50

Upcoming Events

- **T-shirt Design Contest**

We are holding a contest to create a new design for our Battalion shirt. The shirt will be worn by Cadets at events and for Friday PT. If you'd like to participate in our T-shirt design contest, it will be taking place May 21st to May 31st. All submissions are due to und.armyrotc@und.edu by May 31st. The design winner will receive an UND Army ROTC swag bag and their design on a shirt.

- **Cadet Summer Training**

MSIIIs start heading out to Cadet Summer Training (CST) next month! We wish them all the best luck and know they will crush it, representing as UND always does!

- **Helicopter Dedication**

Join us via Facebook Live on 26May at 0930 CST to be part of the Helicopter Dedication for Trudy!

- **Welcome Week**

This Fall, we will be doing a "welcome week" for our new freshman. Students will be allowed into the dorms a few days early and get to spend two days getting a jump-start into to ROTC

- **School Starts**

23Aug will begin the 2021 – 2022 school year! Although spring semester just ended, we are already super anxious to have the Cadets back and ROTC in full swing for another great year of training, growing, and learning!



A Note from Trudy:

Hello to all "my" alumni! I wanted to let you know how much I appreciate those of you who keep in touch with me giving updates on your personal lives along with your military/retirement endeavors. I cannot say enough about the pictures I receive or get tagged in so please keep them coming! I would like to give a shout out to Daniele Keller, our Recruiting Operations Officer, who has done an extraordinary job at getting Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter back on track along with starting up our Alumni Newsletter again. We would love to highlight you all in one of our newsletters, so please feel free to email a couple of pictures along with your bio and anything else you would like added. Until next time...TS



ARMY ROTC

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