



2023
Letter of Award
Chief's Citation



To: Sue Walker
From: Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police
Date: October 10, 2023
Re: Chief's Citation Award

Captain Tracie Meidl nominated Sue Walker to receive the Chief's Citation Award. This award is intended to recognize members of a team or unit for participating in an incident, event, or series of events, or project which has a substantial, positive impact on the community or police department. It must be superior in nature and further the department's mission and overall effectiveness. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed this nomination, it was clear that Sue is most deserving of this award.

Captain Meidl wrote:

"Sue has worked with the Spokane Police Department in a variety of capacities since 1988. She began working in Volunteer Services as a clerk in 1988 and remained until 1995. Throughout that time, Sue was like a second mother to many of the Explorers, Co-Ops, and Reserve Officers. She went above and beyond her work, by hosting events at her home and cooking meals for many of the volunteers.

In 1992, Sue met Glen Whiteley at an Open House for SPD. Sue shared Glen's love for law enforcement history and, together, they started the Spokane Law Enforcement Museum (non-profit organization) in 1996. In 2003, Sue asked for and received space in the Public Safety Building to work on a Yearbook for the Spokane Police Department. This started Sue's journey of volunteering an average of 30-40 hours weekly at the Spokane Police Department.

In her time, Sue helps manage the Spokane Regional Law Enforcement Museum, the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Project (which is under the nonprofit umbrella of the museum), is a member of the Spokane Historical Monument Committee, and is the chairman of the SPD History Book Committee.

Sue's work with the Historical Monument Committee has led to 31 historical monuments at Fairmount, Riverside and Greenwood Memorial Park cemeteries (as of 2022). Her work with the SPD History Book Committee resulted in the renaming the Veterans' Administrative Medical Hospital to the "Mann-Grandstaff Memorial Medical Center." Sue is also responsible for helping write and publish the history of the Spokane Police Department and the history of the City of Spokane through a series of books.

In 2009, Sue traveled with Rae Anna Victor to the Netherlands to the 65th Anniversary of Operation Market-Garden in honor of PFC Joe E. Mann, Medal of Honor recipient in WWII at Best Holland for 10 days. She represented the Museum and her committees, traveling with five members of the Mann family. When they asked Sue to go back and thank the veterans for them, it was then that she became involved in the Inland Northwest Honor Flight project for WWII vets with Tony Lamanna. Sue's had the privilege of being a guardian on the amazing journey with our military veterans, in support of the Inland Northwest Honor Flight.

In 2018, Sue welcomed the idea of funding "End of Watch" memorial signs dedicated to those who lost their life in the line of duty in Spokane County. So far, there have been six signs dedicated and two more scheduled for this year, to include the renaming of the Argonne/Mullen overpass on I-90.

In addition to all of these accomplishments, Sue was also a member of Footprinter, International, and is currently a member of the museum (of course), the Westerners-Spokane Corral, the Spokane Retired Police Officer's & Wives Association, the Jonas Babcock Chapter of the D.A.R., the Spokane Winter Knight Snowmobile Club, and the Spokane Preservation Advocates.

Sue's contributions to the Spokane Police Department, the law enforcement community, and the broader community are ensuring our history will not be forgotten. She is absolutely deserving of this award."

Sue, I am honored to present you with the Chief's Citation Award.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig N. Meidl".

Craig N. Meidl, Chief of Police