CW5 Rhea R. Pruett



CW5 Rhea R. Pruett began her military career in April 1974 with her enlistment into the Michigan Army National Guard. She completed basic training at Fort McClellan, Alabama and advanced training as a Personnel Records Clerk at Fort Ord, California. In January 1975 she entered the active Army serving with the 4th Adjutant General Company at Fort Carson, Colorado and the 198th Personnel Services Company at Nelligan, Germany as a Personnel Records Specialist. On 15 May 1978 she returned to the Michigan Army National Guard as a Sergeant with assignment to the 46th Brigade 38th Infantry Division serving as a full-time Administrative Supply Technician. In May 1980 she was assigned to the state headquarters and attached to the 3rd Battalion 126th Infantry as the Military Personnel Technician where she was promoted to Staff Sergeant. On 22 October 1980 she received a direct appointment to Warrant Officer One.

CW5 Pruett transitioned to the Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) program in February 1987 and established the Personnel Services Branch at the Headquarters State Area Command (STARC), concurrently serving as the Officer in Charge for the 163rd Personnel Services Company. In September 1998 she was assigned as the Army Personnel Policy and Actions Officer with a follow on assignment as the Officer Branch Manager in January 2000. On 1 February 2002 CW5 Pruett was selected as the second Command Chief Warrant Officer for the Michigan Army National Guard, while concurrently managing the Officer Branch. In January 2009 she transitioned out of the Officer Branch and assumed fulltime duties as the State Command Chief Warrant Officer.

CW5 Pruett was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer Five on 27 October 1999 with the distinction of being the first female soldier in the state of Michigan to attain this rank. She has the added distinction of being the first female Soldier in the Army National Guard to attain the position of Command Chief Warrant Officer. As the state's Command Chief Warrant Officer, she serves as the principle advisor to the Michigan Army National guard regarding all actions affecting warrant officers with emphasis on strength management, training and education programs, career management and professional development. She is currently the national Chairperson for the Army National Guard Warrant Officer Senior Advisory Council (WOSAC).

CW5 Pruett's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (second award), Army Commendation Medal (third award), Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (second award), National Defense Service Medal (second award), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (third award), NCO Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Michigan Distinguished Service Medal (second award), Michigan Legion of Merit (fourth award), Michigan Service Medal (20 year service award), Michigan Outside of United States Service Ribbon and the Michigan State Partnership Ribbon (Latvia).

CW5 Pruett was born in the Netherlands. Her family settled in Western Michigan when she was fourteen months old. She is a graduate of the Warrant Officer Senior Staff Course and possesses a bachelor's degree in Business Management from Davenport University.