GEN. ODIERNO RECEIVES GOODPASTER AWARD

Addressing friends and guests in December, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond T. Odierno said Generals Marshall and Goodpaster “represent what’s best about our country. Selfless leaders who put their country before themselves. They are great examples for so many of us, in and out of uniform.”

Gen. Odierno received the 2014 Andrew J. Goodpaster Award for his distinguished career of service to the Army and the nation at a luncheon program held at the Reagan Building in Washington. During more than 37 years of service, he has commanded units at every echelon, from platoon to theater, with duty in Germany, Albania, Kuwait, Iraq, and the United States. Gen. Odierno is the 38th U.S. Army chief of staff.

Former Army Chief of Staff Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, (Ret.), who is now president of the Association of the United States Army, delivered words of tribute to Gen. Odierno. Friend and former colleague Gen. Richard A. Cody, USA (Ret.), former Army vice chief of staff, also offered a tribute as did Col. Robert L. McClure, USA (Ret.), who as a West Point classmate of General Odierno, shared reminiscences. Col. McClure is president and CEO of the West Point Association of Graduates.

Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, USAF (Ret.), former national security advisor to two presidents and the first recipient of the Goodpaster Award was joined by Gen. Sullivan, who is the second recipient, to present the award. Gen. Scowcroft described Generals Marshall and Goodpaster as individuals, like Gen. Odierno, he admired for their contributions to our society. Goodpaster was a longtime member of the Marshall Foundation Board of Trustees and a former chairman.

Repeating themes of selfless service and giving back, Gen. Odierno, said, “This award is not about me. It’s about the Army. It’s about more than one million soldiers who earned this award and their dedication to this willingness to raise their right hand and do whatever we ask of them and to endure hardship in order to keep our nation safe. It’s those men and women who inspire me and ensure our way of life continues.

“Many in this country have seen those who want to take away our freedoms, our way of life. These men and women are willing to stand up to them anywhere in the world for as long as it takes to ensure they never have the opportunity to do that to this great country,” he concluded.

Marshall Foundation Chairman John B. Adams, Jr., welcomed the guests, and Foundation President Rob Havers served as master of ceremonies and concluded the event.

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