



For Immediate Release  
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Contact: Dr. Steven J. Greer  
steven@greerfoundation.org

**The Greer Foundation Honors Chase Kappeler with  
IRON THUMA AWARD**  
*Award is a Prestigious Honor for Physically Fit Youth*

**Eastman, GA** – The Greer Foundation today announced it has awarded the IRON THUMA AWARD, an honor presented in recognition of exceptional stamina, superior fitness, energy, and strength in memory of a fallen warrior, to Chase Kappeler of Alexandria, VA.

Chase is a junior Black Belt training at Kingstowne Karate Dojo. She recently won the Black Belt Grand Championship trophy at the East Coast Regional Female Karate Tournament in Upper Marlboro, MD.



Established in 2010, the award is presented to individuals who exemplify the characteristics of Master Sergeant David K. Thuma – superior physical excellence, stamina, and strength.

Tragically, on June 18, 1998, Master Sergeant Thuma, whose physical prowess was legendary in the Special Forces community, died unexpectedly from a massive heart attack. He was leading his SCUBA detachment's morning physical fitness training while deployed to Kenya. He was 36 years old. At the time he was the Team Sergeant for Special Forces SCUBA Detachment ODA 385, 3rd Special Forces Group (A).

Dr. Greer served with David in Special Forces units. “Dave’s physical prowess was incredible. He was one of those rare individuals who pushed you beyond your limits...and then talked you into another mile!” said Dr. Steven Greer, founder of The Greer Foundation.

“Recipients of the IRON THUMA AWARD have demonstrated a strong desire to live healthy lifestyles and pursue physical excellence” Dr. Greer said. “Chase exemplifies amazing physical and mental toughness...she is an exceptional role model for kids of all ages.”

For more information about The Greer Foundation visit [www.greerfoundation.org](http://www.greerfoundation.org)

The Greer Foundation focuses on promoting the values of America's Soldiers - loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. Each year, the

Foundation's programs help inspire hundreds of exceptionally promising individuals to emerge as leaders in America's Armed Forces and other professional disciplines.

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