

50 YEAR HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY MILITARY CHAPLAINCY

Edited By

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INTRODUCTION

This 50 Year History of the Church of God of Prophecy (CoGoP) Military Chaplaincy Ministries is written in connection with the 50th Chaplaincy Ministries Reunion scheduled for the International Assembly of the Church of God of Prophecy July 20-24, 2022 at the Oklahoma City Convention Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

This history will include the military chaplains and chaplain assistants who have served on active duty as representatives for the Church of God of Prophecy. It will also include Civil Air Patrol and State Defense Force Chaplains.

This history begins with Bishop Elwood Matthews the first CoGoP Servicemen's Representative and Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agent and culminating with Doctor Douglas Ray Stephenson, the very first military chaplain on active duty and the current Chaplaincy Ministries Director and Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agent. Bishop Matthews was appointed Servicemen's Representative in the 1967 General Assembly by General Overseer Milton A. Tomlinson. Reverend Douglas R. Stephenson was ordered to active duty with the US Army on 8 September 1972 at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Here is a listing of some of the Military Chaplains and Chaplain Assistants who have served the church on active duty or the Reserves, National Guard, Civil Air Patrol or State Defense Forces:

Chaplain (LTC) Douglas Ray Stephenson, US Army 1972 - 1992

Chaplain (COL) Ronald Crews, US Army, 1974 - 2008

Chaplain (MAJ) Guy Lindsey, US Army, 1973 – 1993

Chaplain, Cpt Raymond Brown, US Air Force, 1975 - 2003

Chaplain (LTC) Gerald R. Moates, US Army, 1981 – 2008

Chaplain, Cmdr, Dan Kurbis, US Navy, 1974 - 1994

Chaplain, Cpt James Garner, US Air Force, 1984 - 1988

CPT Bill Reed, CHC, US Navy, 1982 - 2011

Chaplain, Col, Jon Stovall, US Air Force, 1983 - 2011

Chaplain (LTC) Kurtes Quesinberry, US Army, 1985 - 2000

Chaplain Maj Charles Knauer, US Air Force and Reserves, 1987 - 2015

Chaplain (LTC) Taz Randles, US Army NG, 1994 - 2016

Chaplain (MAJ) Dale Code, US Army, 1997 - 2013

Chaplain (CPT) Aliner J. Harris, US Army, 2007 - 2011

Chaplain (MAJ) Abram R. Staten, US Army, 2015 - Present

Chaplain (CPT) Christina Douglas, US Army Reserves, 2017 - Present

Chaplain, 1Lt Brian Graves, Tennessee Air NG Chaplain, 2020 - Present

1Lt Jermaine Livingston, US Air Force Chaplain Candidate, 2015 - 2020

Chaplain (LTC) Roger D. Lanter, Georgia Defense Force, 2005 - 2012

Steve Wilson, SGM US Army, Chaplain Assistant, 1973 - 2003

Montie Elston, MSGT US Army, Chaplain Assistant, 1970 - 2000

Ted Cooper, US Air Force, Chaplain Services Specialist, 1965– 1969

Norman Wojcik, US Air Force, Chaplain Services Specialist, 1966 – 70

Jay Crews, US Army, Chaplain Assistant, 1967 - 1969

Chaplain E. C. McKinley, Civil Air Patrol (CAP), US Air Force Aux.

Chaplain Ron Hamm, Civil Air Patrol (CAP), US Air Force Auxiliary

Chaplain James Brisson, Civil Air Patrol (CAP), US Air Force Auxiliary

Chaplain Grady Fulton, Civil Air Patrol (CAP), US Air Force Auxiliary

SERVICEMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE AND MILITARY SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Our CoGoP Historian, Bishop Adrian Varlack, has provided an important piece of information about the beginning and the end of what we have called the Servicemen's Representative and Military Service Department.

SERVICEMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE AND MILITARY SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Church of God of Prophecy International Offices

In his annual address to the **59th General Assembly, 1964**, under the subject "Public Relations", Bishop M. A. Tomlinson wrote in part,

We have a number of members who are serving with the armed forces throughout the world. Many times they are isolated from our services and deprived of the fellowship of the Church. Sometimes more than one of them may be at the same base, yet they do not know each other. Sometimes they have difficulty finding the local churches that are nearby. An effective plan could be worked out to be a blessing to our servicemen.

The suggestion made by the General Overseer to change the title of the Publishing Department Field Representative to **Public Relations Director**, was approved by the Assembly through the Questions and Subjects Committee Report, section 2 (Church of God of Prophecy (CGP) 1964 Assembly Minutes, page 129). This is the year (1964) that D. Elwood Matthews was appointed as the first ever Publications Relations Director in the Church of God of Prophecy. In **1966** Brother Tomlinson had a section in his 1966 address titled "**A Tribute to Our Servicemen**" (1966 CGP Assembly Minutes page 52). In this he asked the Assembly to "express approval of the attention that Brother Matthews has given to the needs of our servicemen." He also asked the Assembly to make provision so that Sister Matthews' expenses in

accompanying her husband would be paid. This was subsequently done through the Executive Committee.

Accordingly on **May 13, 1967**, the Matthews began an around the world trip through Hawaii and Guam, areas when our Church had members who were part of the military. They arrived in Saigon, South Vietnam on **May 30th, 1967**. Reports from this trip were sent back while they were in route and were carried in the White Wing Messenger (WWM) for **June 10, 1967**, page 7 (from Hawaii), **June 17th, 1967**, WWM page 7 (from Guam), and an overall summary report of the trip **July 15, 1967**, WWM pages 8 and 9. **Places visited during the tour were Hawaii, Guam, South Vietnam, Thailand, India, Turkey, Greece, and Germany. Their return was reported in the WWM EDITORIALS of the June 24th, 1967 issue, which also mentioned that taped reports of their trip were broadcast over two local radio stations in Cleveland TN, where the Church has its headquarters (international offices).**

At the Assembly in 1967 during Brother Matthews's program, he featured Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel C. T. Boyd who had met them when they arrived in Saigon and assisted them with their site visits to the servicemen. Chaplain Boyd, a 22-year veteran of the Army's Chaplaincy and a minister of the Church of God (Anderson, IN) gave a heartfelt, beautifully presented address to the Assembly, well worth the read (1967 CGP Assembly Minutes, pages 131-136).

Actual official appointments of Servicemen's Representatives by the General Overseer and their terms of service are as follows:

D. Elwood Matthews	1967 – 1972
William H. Brooks	1972 – 1977
Bobby R. Snow	1977 – 1990

(Elwood was Publication Relations Director as of 1964, and from this position servicemen and students were communicated with, visited, and

sent literature. He was named officially as Servicemen's Representative, in 1967). Note: The position was always named in conjunction with another area of responsibility for the same individual.

CLOSURE OF THE MILITARY SERVICE DEPARTMENT

(From the General Overseer's address to the 85th Annual Assembly, 1990: CGP Assembly Minutes, 1990, page 77):

MILITARY SERVICE DEPARTMENT

When the General Overseer proposed a Public Relations Director in the 59th Assembly, he referred to our "members who are serving in the Armed Forces throughout the world," stating that "an effective plan could be worked out to be a blessing to our servicemen" (59th Assembly Minutes 1964, page 42). The record shows that the Public Relations Director did much good work in this area.

In 1967 the General Overseer appointed the Public Relations Director to serve also as "Servicemen's Representative." Since that time this position has continued in conjunction with some other appointment. Since 1983, the title has been Military Service Representative.

While we desire that all our members be ministered to wherever they are, the direct responsibility for ministering still rests upon the local church. With the comparatively small number of members in military service who are currently being ministered to through our Military Service Department, it does not seem feasible that this department be continued. Its discontinuance should not affect our chaplaincy program, since an endorsing agency can be maintained for them. We appreciate all the good work that has been rendered by those who have served in this department.

The Questions and Subjects Committee report as approved by the 1990 Assembly, authorized organizational effectiveness changes by the General Overseer in consultation with the Administrative Committee (CGP Assembly Minutes 1990, pages 44, 45).

The final report of the last appointed Military Service Representative, Minister Bobby R. Snow, has a **detailed list of the members of the chaplaincy** as it then existed (1990 CGP Assembly Minutes, pages 135, 136; bold emphasis supplied).

Adrian L. Varlack Sr., Church Historian

March 11, 2022



Bishop D. Elwood Matthews
Servicemen's Director and Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agent
1967 - 1972

Bishop D. Elwood Matthews was born to Stacy Alton Matthews and Neta Mae Strickland Matthews on September 16, 1929. He was an ordained minister in the Church of God of Prophecy and served as a pastor, International Youth Ministries Director, Public Relations Director, Servicemen's Director, Evangelism Director and as State Overseer of Florida. Bishop Matthews also served as the minister for the Voice of Salvation radio and television ministries. His wife, Roberta Nunnery, was not only his cherished companion but an integral part of his ministry. Elwood and Roberta travelled the world sharing the truth of Jesus Christ, the true Son of God. Elwood served as Military Servicemen's Representative from 1967 to 1972. With the closure of the Military Servicemen's Department in 1990 Bishop Matthews once again became the Endorsing Ecclesiastical Agent of CoGoP. In 1994 he turned these duties over to Chaplain Guy Lindsey, pastor of Keith Street.

Reverend Donald Elwood Matthews went home to his beloved Savior Tuesday morning, December 15, 2009. Reverend Matthews is survived by his wife Roberta, their only child Kimberly Matthews Palo, Kim's husband Joe Palo and their two sons Corey Joseph and Matthew Tyler, as well as numerous relatives.



Bishop William H. "Pete" Brooks
Military Servicemen's Representative
Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agent
1972 to 1978

William Howard Brooks was born on February 29, 1928, in Sylacauga, Alabama, the son of his father, William Clyde Brooks and his mother, Nellie (Holmes) Brooks. When William was 18 he registered for the draft. He joined the US Army and ended up with the rank of Corporal. He married Hattie Ward in Ohio and began his ordained ministry in the CoGoP. In 1972 General Overseer Milton A. Tomlinson appointed him as Military Servicemen's Representative and as Overseer of the country of Germany. It was during this time Bishop Brooks helped lead several military retreats in Germany, Thailand, Alaska, Idaho, Texas and North Carolina. He left the general headquarters in 1977 to become the overseer of the states of Tennessee and North Carolina. William died on September 23, 1997, in Cleveland Rural, Tennessee, at the age of 69, and was buried in Tennessee.



Bobby R. Snow
Servicemen's Representative
Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agent
1977 – 1990

Bobby R. Snow comes from Birmingham, Alabama. Bobby Snow served on the state staff's of several of the southern states: Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky and Georgia. Bobby served in the US Army as a Sergeant in the Engineer Battalion in Germany and as a result was selected by the General Overseer Milton A. Tomlinson in 1972 to serve the general CoGoP as Servicemen's Representative and Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agent. Reverend Bobby R. Snow participated in and helped lead many military receptions and Servicemen's Services at our Annual General Assemblies. He also participated in annual Military Winter Retreats at the Armed Forces Recreation Center in Germany and many other states as well. He also edited a department publication, *The Sentinel*, which brought news from home to the military personnel as well as reports of chaplain and laymen activities on behalf of the military. Bobby served in this position until the position was eliminated in the 1990 General Assembly under the leadership of Bishop Billy Murray.

Upon the closure of the Military Servicemen's Department Bobby left Cleveland, Tennessee in to accept a pastorate in Kentucky. Reverend Bobby R. Snow went to be with our Lord on 14 November in Jasper, Walker County, Alabama.

A HISTORY OF THE SERVICEMAN'S PROGRAM: THE EARLY YEARS. This is an informative and helpful article written by a US Army Staff Sergeant while attending Tomlinson College in November 1983 SSG Keith Linthicum. He wrote it in fulfillment of a History and Polity Class for Professor Norm Fontana. It is entitled:

A HISTORY OF THE SERVICEMAN'S PROGRAM: THE EARLY YEARS.

The Serviceman's Program in the Church of God of Prophecy is a relatively new development in the history of the church. Conceived in response to the desire to maintain contact with and meet the needs of members serving in the armed forces, the program has expanded in several directions. In addition the outreach to the servicemen has indirectly resulted in the establishment of churches in several countries and many servicemen have found Christ and the church through its activities. Today there are many pastors and evangelists who answered the call to ministry while in the service.

The outreach to the servicemen was originally started by Elwood Matthews during the mid-1960's Brother Matthews, who himself had previously served in the Navy, felt that the church had lost an entire generation of men in World War II because the Church had not recognized or attempted to meet the special needs of men engaged in fighting a war. The mid-1960's was the time during which the Vietnam War was escalating, and Brother Matthews did not want the Church to repeat the same mistake.

He began while serving as the Church's Public Relations Director by writing letters to Church members serving tours of duty in Vietnam. These letters were warmly received and kept those members in touch with the Church and its activities. The letters also served to let the men know that the Church cared about them and their situation.

During the 61st General Assembly in 1966, General Overseer M. A. Tomlinson paid tribute to the servicemen during his annual address. In his tribute he stated that those at home owed a debt of gratitude to the servicemen for the privilege to worship and serve God. He stated:

The Church has a responsibility to those who are leaving their homes and participating in the peace-keeping missions throughout the world. We are grateful for the attention which has been given to our servicemen and women by the Public Relations Department, but it seems something more should be done to show our gratitude to them. Even though they are away from home and away from their local churches, they are still a part of the Body of Christ, and they need the encouragement and attention and Fellowship of the Church. Think what it would mean to a young man who has been away from home for a year or longer to hear a Church of God message. Think what it would mean to see a Church of God minister and enjoy a few hours of fellowship with the Body of Christ. No doubt those of us who have not been in service cannot fully realize this need, but we are responsible for our members wherever they are. (Assembly Minutes (AA) – 61st World-Wide Assembly Cleveland, TN: WWPH, 1966, p. 53)

He went on to thank Brother Matthews for his personal attention to the needs of the servicemen and asked the Assembly to consider making available sufficient funds for Brother Matthews and his wife to visit servicemen around the world.

In April 1967, Brother Matthews began the Servicemen's Newsletter, with a distribution to approximately 800 servicemen world-wide. The newsletter, a single page publication, contained information of upcoming events in the Church, letters from servicemen, descriptions of working being accomplished for or by servicemen, and articles of encouragement, exhorting reader to remain strong in Christ and set an example for others to follow. This advice was in the very first edition:

“The Christian G. I. must not “goof off” in Church attendance because he is away from home or the chaplain belongs to another church organization. I am well aware that the chapel service will not be like those conducted in your local church, but by your attendance you show sinners that you are interested in your spiritual life and desire to be counted for Christ. By lounging on your bunk on Sunday morning, you are voting against the Church and joining forces with heathen. In any military base, there is much that can be done for Christ and his kingdom, if you will make your service available to your chaplain. You might be surprised at the many needs he has that you could help to supply. Don’t hide our light under the bushel or religious pride and indifference, but let it shine by the glory of God. Become involved in the local chapel program and receive blessings from the hand of our Maker that will be joy unspeakable and full of glory”, (The Servicemen’s Newsletter, Vol I No. 1 April 15, 1967, pl 1.)

The Matthews began their world tour arriving in Honolulu on May 14, 1967. From there they stopped at Guam, Manilla, Okinawa, and Tokyo. Seoul, Saigon, Bangkok, Istanbul, Athens and Frankfurt. During the services in Vietnam, the servicemen attended with their weapons because of the ever present danger of an attack. During one communion service, one young man who was killed in action three weeks later received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. Of his visit, Brother Matthews stated:

In Vietnam I was surprised find the morale so high among men fighting the war, Each man seems to know why he is here and feels that the aggression of communism must be stopped somewhere, and they say they would rather fight it there than on home soil. (Servicemen’s Newsletter (SN), Vol 1, No. 1, Jul 15, 1967)

Also during his Vietnam visit, Brother Matthews and Chaplain (LTC) C. P. Boyd whom he invited to speak at the 62nd General Assembly.

Chaplain Boyd had been serving as staff chaplain of all military hospitals in Vietnam at the time of the Matthews' visit. He had helped Brother and Sister Matthews in visiting the hospitals and was very cooperative in meeting their needs. Chaplain Boyd is a member of the Church of God with headquarters at Anderson, Indiana. At the 62nd Annual Assembly in September 1967, he spoke concerning the military chaplaincy program emphasizing the spiritual needs of servicemen. In describing the chaplain's ministry he said:

It is a spiritual ministry. The sole purpose of our being in military service is wrapped up in one single concept – we are clergymen of our separate denominations seeking to serve Jesus Christ by serving our fellowmen in uniform. We are consecrated, ordained and set apart by Jesus Christ for this purpose. (Assembly Minutes – 62nd World-Wide Assembly, p. 133)

Following the service, 25 young men who expressed an interest in the chaplain's program met with Chaplain Boyd. Among them was 20-year old Douglas Stephenson, who in the 67th Annual Assembly in 1972 would be presented to the Church as its first chaplain. (SN, Vol. 7, No. 54, Oct 1971)

At the close of the Assembly, Brother Matthews was appointed Serviceman's Representative, making the Servicemen's Department a permanent part of the Church. As part of this department, a program known as "Voices From Vietnam" was started. During Brother Matthews' trip to Vietnam, he had taped interviews with most of the men he had visited. Upon returning to the United States, he gave the tapes to radio stations in their home towns. The radio stations would call the families and play the tapes on the air, allowing the families to hear their son's, husband's and or father's voices. The program was a great success with the families, especially here in Cleveland where people would approach Brother Matthews on the street and express their thanks to him personally for the program.

Another program started during this time was Project Mail Call. This program, headed by a 16-year old Jack Stewart of Wyandotte, Michigan, had as its aim the sending of cards, letters and packages to Church servicemen serving in Vietnam. A list of addresses first appeared in the White Wing Messenger in November 1968, along with a request for church members to write card or send packages to the men for Christmas. Altogether some 436 names and addresses were gathered and the program overall was quite successful.

Although not a program of the Servicemen's Department, T/Sgt Thomas M. Feltman had begun an outreach at Yubon, Thailand where he was stationed. As a result of his efforts, a church was established adding Thailand to the list of countries where the Church is organized. At the 63rd Assembly, he was officially appointed at the Thailand representative. (Minutes – 63rd AA CoGoP, Cleveland, TN: WWPH, 1968, p. 144)

In April 1969, the Servicemen's Newsletter was expanded from a one page newsletter to a multipage publication called "The Servicemen's News." The first issue contained the dates and places for Brother Matthews' second world tour. The tour would take him to Honolulu, Guam, Okinawa, Fukouka, Seoul, Saigon, Da Nang, Bangkok, Tripoli, Frankfurt and Seville. The magazine was now being sent to over 900 servicemen stationed around the world.

At the 64th Annual Assembly, the Matthews told of their tour and in particular of their visit to Vietnam. Sister Matthews expressed her feelings by telling of the communion services they had in Saigon. Men who had never seen each other before loved each other as if they had been acquainted for years. (Minutes – 64th AA of CoGoP,

The various programs of the Servicemen's Department continued throughout the following year. At the 65th Assembly, Brother Matthews introduced Douglas Stephenson who was in his final year of seminary. Following the completion of his studies, he would enter the Army as a

chaplain. In November, a chapel in the classroom building of Tomlinson College was dedicated in honor of the Church's servicemen. A plaque was hung at the front of the chapel with the following inscription:

Dedicated to those members and family and friends of the Church of God of Prophecy who, in the service of their country, gave their lives in defense of freedom and world peace with the request that each prayer in this chapel include a petition to GOD for the servicemen everywhere and on behalf of world peace.

The year of 1971 was to be a big year in the history of the Servicemen's Program. Brother Matthews returned Vietnam in February to visit the servicemen with other stops in Korea, Okinawa and Thailand.

Around the world in Germany, revival broke out among the servicemen stationed there. It began in July with a service held in the home of SGT Donald G. Whitsitt conducted by Curtis Sculthorpe. During the service which 26 people attended, both SGT Whitsitt and his wife were saved. In addition the revival soon spread to Zweibrucken and Mainz. Soon the need for a centrally located Servicemen's Center was recognized and the earnest desire for a retreat was expressed. (SN: Vol. V No.52, July 1971)

After much effort under the direction of CPT Don Hull, a Servicemen's Retreat was held in November 1971. The guest speakers were Elwood Matthews (Servicemen's Representative), Harry Lee Moore (Radio Minister) and Charles Hawkins (Mission Secretary), A total of 47 people attended the retreat including Roy Mixon, Overseer of England, and William Cretier, Overseer of Germany. (SN: Vol V No. 57, January 1972). The retreat was a success, with two missions being started as a result and additional retreats were to be scheduled annually. (Minutes – 67th AA CoGoP, Cleveland, TN: WWPH, 1972)

The year 1972 was the induction of Douglas Stephenson into the Army as the Church's first chaplain. Chaplain Stephenson entered the Army following seven (7) hard years of studying and preparation. Besides

distinguishing himself as the church's first chaplain he went on to become a Green Beret and is currently attending the Army's Command and General Staff College, a rarity for chaplains.

At the 67th Annual Assembly in September, major changes were made in the Servicemen's Department. William H. Brooks was appointed as the new Servicemen's Representative as well as the new Overseer of Germany. The Servicemen's Department was now a well established part of the Church with a chaplain in the Army and a magazine going out to over 1,000 servicemen. In addition, the Church in Germany, composed almost entirely of servicemen was beginning to grow and would soon see several churches established in that country.

Germany was not the only country however with active servicemen playing an active role in spreading the gospel and the Church message. At the 68th Assembly, a list of missions started by servicemen and their families was shown:

Taipei, Taiwan – Joseph T. Mullins

Citizen, Germany – SGT James McIntosh

Spangdahlam, Germany – SGT Curtis Sculthorpe

Norfolk, Nebraska – Henry Baker

Parker Heights, Texas – W. E. Johnson

(Minutes, 68th AA CoGoP, Cleveland, TN: WWPH, 1973, p. 140-141)

The Servicemen's Department has done an outstanding job of maintaining contact with its members in the armed forces. Although the Church initiated the department as a result of the Vietnam War, it has continued on to this day performing an invaluable mission. Although some have questioned the value or morality of having such a program at all, it can be seen even in the early years that the work of the Servicemen's Department has met a need which otherwise might not have been met. In addition, service members have contributed to the

growth of the Church world-wide by bringing others into the Church, and by being willing to be used of the Lord to start missions where they have been stationed. The Servicemen's Program has never been a proponent of military power, nor seeking to elevate the American "Ideal" over other countries. It has simply been a program designed to meet the special needs of men and women who are in a unique situation. This it has done quite well. ~~~~End of Servicemen's Department Article~~~~

Prior to 1966 Bishop Elwood Matthews, Director of Public Relations for CoGoP, a veteran yeoman of the US Navy, realized the urgent need to minister to our Armed Forces personnel. With the buildup of military personnel on active duty due to the Selective Service Draft System for the Vietnam War, by April of 1966 Bishop Matthews was already sounding the clarion call for CoGoP ministers to qualify themselves to serve our denomination and our country as military chaplains. One of his first group appeals was during the spring Bible Training Camp (BTC) session where Doug Stephenson's mother, Doris A. Stephenson, was in attendance. She returned home to Port Lavaca, Texas, from Cleveland, Tennessee, and BTC telling Doug as a young minister the need of the church for military chaplains. As he looks back on the early days of him fulfilling his calling to the gospel ministry this appeal immediately made an impact upon his heart and spirit. This was in May 1966.

By September 1972 Doug would find himself on active duty at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, serving as the very first active duty chaplain representing the Church of God of Prophecy.

We will begin this 50 year history by providing a biographical sketch on each CoGoP minister who has represented the Church as a military chaplain in chronological order. We will begin this history with a biography of our very first armed forces chaplain, Chaplain (LTC) Douglas R. Stephenson, who served the Church from 8 September 1972 to 31 August 1992:



Chaplain (LTC) Douglas R. Stephenson,
US Army Retired
1972 - 1992

Douglas Ray Stephenson was born January 14, 1947 to parents Ray Clifton and Doris Ainsworth Stephenson in Pasadena, Texas. Doug has three sibling sisters: Molly Stephenson Wyatt of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Colleen Stephenson Womack of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Donna Stephenson Brogdon of Cleveland, Tennessee. Doug lived in Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas during his childhood. September 5, 1969 Doug married Judith Marie Brooks of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. Their first child a girl, Amanda Laun Stephenson, was born to the Coweta parsonage March 14, 1972. The second child a son, Jonathan David Stephenson was born at Womack Army Hospital, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and May 23, 1975. Their daughter Amanda married Bryan Joe Owen in 1991 and they gave us four (4) grandchildren:

Andrew, Hayden, Peyton and Emma Kate. Andrew married Katie Hill in July 2019. Hayden married Miranda Lovelace in December 2019. David married Tina Johnson June 1998 and gave us four grandchildren: Jaden, Anna, Reagan and Leigha.

At age eleven (11) Doug joined the CoGoP 12 January 1958 in the newly organized CoGoP in Port Lavaca, Texas. In 1963 Doug became the local Victory Leaders Director following his mother Doris. In 1966 Doug accepted his personal call to the gospel ministry at National Youth Camp, Green Leaf, Gore, Oklahoma. In 1967 he preached his first revival for Pastor James Hall at the Bay City, Texas CoGoP. In 1968 Bishop Dorlain Queener, State Overseer of East Texas set him forth as a minister. On 10 October 1971 Bishop Omar Lawson of Oklahoma appointed him as pastor of the Coweta, Oklahoma CoGoP. Effective 12 February 1972 Doug took the oath of office as a US Army Chaplain and became the very first ever military chaplain for the CoGoP. From September 1972 to August 1992 Doug had a career as a US Army Chaplain serving in the Airborne Infantry and Special Forces units. During his over twenty (20) years of chaplaincy, Doug and Judy and their family participated in the nearest local CoGoP supporting local church services, revivals, state and national conventions and youth camps. While being assigned to Germany on two different occasions 1979-1981 and 1985-1987, Chaplain Stephenson led annual CoGoP Military Retreats to the Armed Forces Recreation Center, Berchtesgarden, Bavaria, Germany. Following military retirement August 31, 1992 Doug served six churches in north Georgia: Cartersville (1992-95), Jonesboro (1995-2002), Hickory Flat (2002-2003), Marietta (2004-2007), Rossville (2007-2016) and Lindale (2016-2019). In 1995 Doug was set forth as Bishop while he was pastoring the Jonesboro, GA CoGoP. Effective 1 August 2000 the General Overseer and North American General Presbyter Bishop Fred Fisher appointed him as the Director, CoGoP Chaplaincy Ministries. He and Judy retired from the active pastoral ministry 31 July 2019. Doug and Judy are now members

of the Douglasville, Georgia CoGoP where he supports Pastor Larry Lowry by preaching from time to time. He continues to serve as the CoGoP Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agent and Director of Chaplaincy Ministries until he retires effective 1 August 2022.

Douglas graduated from Calhoun High School, Port Lavaca, Texas in May 1965. He attended Texas A&M University at Kingsville, Texas for his first semester in college during the Spring 1965. The summer of 1965 he transferred to Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas where he graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree May 15, 1968. Doug attended the Oral Roberts Graduate School of Theology for the year 1968-69. Doug graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky May 15, 1971 with a Master of Divinity degree. Following retirement from the military Doug attended the Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia receiving a Doctor of Ministry degree on Mother's Day 2000.

Doug learned to work hard from an early age. While living in Port Lavaca, Texas at the age of twelve (12) he picked cotton during the summer of 1959 in order to pay his tithes and his church dues. At the State Convention he was recognized by Church of Prophecy Marker Association State Secretary Sister Irene Aiken for picking cotton in order to pay his CPMA membership. She awarded him the Egermeier's Bible Book for this accomplishment and challenged the convention to pay their CPMA memberships. His first real job was that of newspaper boy for the Victoria Advocate newspaper, Victoria, Texas. He worked as a carrier from the age of thirteen to seventeen. While in college at Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, Doug worked for the Lowman Student Union Center as a recreational and audio-visual specialist. Starting the summer of 1968 Doug worked as a Bible and Bible book salesman with the Southwest Publishing Company of Nashville, Tennessee. For the next four (4) summers he worked his way through college and seminary selling Bibles door to door in the following locations: Waynesville and Altoona, Pennsylvania; Aurora,

Illinois and Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. During seminary at Oral Roberts in Tulsa, Oklahoma Doug worked as an orderly at Hillcrest Medical Center. In Wilmore, Kentucky Doug worked construction for Crouse Construction helping to build the new student union building at Asbury Seminary. In October 1971 he and Judy began their pastorate in Coweta, Oklahoma.

In February 1972 Doug received a direct commission into the US Army Reserves as Chaplain (1LT) Douglas R. Stephenson, 172d Direct Support Group, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He attended the US Army Chaplain Basic officer course the summer of 1972 graduating on the Commandant's list. Effective 8 September 1972 Chaplain (CPT) Douglas R. Stephenson reported to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and was assigned to the First Engineer Training Brigade. While serving at Fort Leonard Wood he applied for and attended Basic Airborne training Fort Benning, Georgia graduating the first week of December. From December 1973 to December 1974 Doug was assigned overseas to Korea and the 6th Ordinance Battalion. Upon return from Korea Chaplain (CPT) Douglas R. Stephenson was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

After serving eighteen (18) months in the 82nd Airborne Division Doug was recruited to serve as the 5th Special Forces Group chaplain. In November 1976 Doug graduated from the Special Forces Officer's course earning the right to wear the Green Beret the symbol of the Special Forces soldiers. This event made Doug one of the very few special staff officers to accomplish this feat. Following the Chaplain Career course in 1978 at Fort Wadsworth, New York, Doug accepted an assignment with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Squadron, in Amberg, Germany. During this tour of duty he was promoted to the rank of Major. In 1982 Chaplain (MAJ) Douglas R. Stephenson returned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina as Assistant Corps Chaplain, Eighteenth (18th) Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina serving out of the

Hammond Place Chapel. For the year 1984 Doug returned to the 82d Airborne Division, as the 2nd Brigade Chaplain, working out of the Division Memorial Chapel. In January 1985 Doug was assigned to the 4th Transportation Command, Oberursel, Germany where he served as the Command Chaplain. In August 1986 he moved to Stuttgart, Germany and became the Community Chaplain and Chaplain Fund Custodian, Robinson Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany. It was while serving here he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In January 1988 Chaplain (LTC) Douglas R. Stephenson was assigned as the Deputy Post Chaplain, Fort Benning, Georgia serving as Mobilization Chaplain. In 1989 Doug became the Infantry Training Center Chaplain serving out of the Infantry Center Chapel. January 1991 Chaplain (LTC) Douglas R. Stephenson returned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, becoming the Special Forces Command Chaplain. He retired from the US Army in July 1992 from Special Forces Command with over twenty (20) years of service.

Douglas's Army awards include: Meritorious Service Medal with three (3) Oak Leaf Clusters; Army Commendation Medal; Army Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal and the Army Service Ribbon. He also earned the following badges: Special Forces Tab, the Master Parachutist Badge and the German Jump Wings.

STEPHENSON PHOTOS





Chaplain (COL) Ron Crews
USAR Retired
1974 – 2008

Ron Crews was born on 30 October 1948 in Sanford, Florida, to Bishop Joe and Flora Crews. His dad was pastor of the Sanford, Florida, Church of God of Prophecy. In 1952, his family moved to Jacksonville, Florida, where his father pastored the Druid Street and then Spring Glen, CoGoP. In 1962 his family moved to Ocoee, Florida where his dad pastored the CoGoP there.

After graduating from Ocoee High School, Ron attended Stetson University on a music scholarship. During his freshman year, Ron felt a call to ministry. He was licensed to preach by the Ocoee CoGoP and preached his first sermon there. During his senior year at university, Ron served as the Florida Sunday School Director under the leadership of Bishop M. T. Linkous.

It was also during this time that he felt a call to military chaplaincy. After graduation he married Jonda Salyers and the two moved to Georgia where Ron served as VLB director for the state and Jonda

served as Youth Camp Director under the leadership of Bishop A. J. Creel.

During their travels across the state, Ron visited Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. Ron was the only non-Presbyterian and only “Pentecostal” student. He was offered a scholarship and began classes in the summer of 1971. He was accepted in the U S Army Seminary program and was commissioned a 2LT in January, 1972.

That summer Ron attended the Chaplain Officer Basic Course along with newly commissioned Chaplain Doug Stephenson. The first two commissioned chaplains for the CoGoP graduated from the Army Chaplain Basic Course together.

During his last two years of seminary, Ron served as pastor of the Stockbridge, Georgia, CoGoP. He also completed a two week introduction to Hospital Chaplaincy at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

Ron Graduated with honors from Columbia Seminary and was awarded a Fellowship to be used for graduate studies. Ron and Jonda left seminary on 1 June 1974 and reported to Fort Bragg, North Carolina on 15 June 1974.

Ron attended Basic Airborne Training and was assigned to the 3/325 Airborne Infantry Battalion. He was also assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division Chapel to serve as one of the pastors there.

Later Chaplain Stephenson came to Fort Bragg and Ron and Doug began holding revival services at the Division Chapel on Sunday nights. God moved mightily and many soldiers and spouses came to faith in Christ.

Ron left active duty in 1977 to serve at a local church, not affiliated with the CoGoP, in Fayetteville, North Carolina. While there he started a Christian School as well as cofounded a Bible College. He earned a Doctor Ministry from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in 1984.

In 1985, Ron received a commission to serve again as a chaplain in the Army Reserves. In 1986, Ron and Jonda and their four children moved to Atlanta, GA, to plant a local church. He also served in the Georgia Army National Guard. In addition, he was elected to serve three terms in Georgia House of Representatives. He was promoted to Major and served as Brigade Chaplain for an Engineer unit. He deployed for three months to the Republic of Georgia with his engineers.

After being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, he served as Command Chaplain for the Georgia Troop Command. In 2000, Ron was selected to serve a six-month tour at the Army Chaplain School, Fort Jackson, SC, to serve as a writer of chaplain doctrine.

After this tour, Ron and his family moved to Boston, Massachusetts where Ron served as President of the Massachusetts Family Institute, a ministry in association with Focus on the Family. He also served as Chaplain for the 26th Infantry Brigade. After being selected for Colonel, Ron served as the senior chaplain for the Massachusetts Army National Guard.

At age 57, in 2005, Ron was asked to return to active duty where he served as Deputy Installation Chaplain at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He served as Senior Pastor of Soldiers Chapel and as the Rear Detachment Senior Chaplain for the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

He retired from service in 2008. He and Jonda moved back to Fayetteville, North Carolina where he served as Academic Dean of Grace College of Divinity and as Chaplain Endorser for Grace Churches International. He continues in the latter function.

In 2012, Ron, along with other chaplain endorsers from Evangelical denominations, formed Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty (CALL). This required a move to Washington, DC. Ron served as Executive Director and primary spokesperson for CALL. He testified before the House Armed Services Committee and helped to write legislation that

was passed to preserve religious liberty for all chaplains and those they serve.

He retired from this position in 2017 and he and Jonda moved to Gainesville, Georgia, where he serves as volunteer chaplain for the Georgia Military Officers Association. Ron and Jonda currently live in Gainesville, Georgia, their “from here to heaven” house. They have four children and six grandchildren – so far.

His military awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (with two oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (with three oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), National Defense Service Medal, War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces National Guard Achievement Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Training Ribbon, Olympic Service Ribbon, Airborne Jump Wings, Massachusetts Meritorious Service Medal, Georgia Meritorious Service Medal, Georgia Commendation Medal, Georgia Humanitarian Service Medal, Georgia National Guard Service Medal, and the Georgia State Active Duty Ribbon (1 Star).

CREWS PHOTOS





Chaplain (MAJ) Guy Lindsey
US Army Chaplain, Retired
1973 - 1993

Guy Lindsey was born on 1 December 1942 in Tupelo, Mississippi the son of Thomas and Irene Lindsey. He married Wanda Cunningham from Kentucky and pastored the Wilson, North Carolina CoGoP. Guy received his Master of Divinity degree from Southeastern Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina in 1978. He entered the US Army as a chaplain in 1978 at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

His follow-on assignments took them to the Republic of South Korea, Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama, and back to Fort Campbell, Kentucky. In 1991 Guy deployed to Operation Desert Storm in Kuwait Middle East serving as the 3rd Brigade Chaplain, 101st Airborne Division, Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. Guy's book entitled, *Peace in the Desert Storm*, shared his chaplain experiences serving with the 101st Airborne Division. Guy retired from the US Army and began working with Tennessee State Overseer Bishop Eugene Weakly as an Administrative Assistant. His next assignment from 1994 to 1998 was as pastor for Keith Street Ministries, Cleveland, Tennessee. During this time Bishop Elwood Matthews retired to the state of Florida and turned over the Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agency responsibilities to Chaplain Lindsey. Chaplain Lindsey then turned these responsibilities over to retired US Army Chaplain (LTC) Douglas R. Stephenson in 2000.



Chaplain, Lt. Raymond R. Brown,
US Air Force Reserve
1975 to 2003

Raymond R. Brown was born at home on a farm in North Carolina in 1950. His parents were farmers and his grandparents were sharecroppers. Those long days of working on the farm from dark in the morning to dark at night taught him the value of hard work. During his last two years of high school he took on the responsibility of driving the school bus to school each day. On the farm, the church was the center of the community life and family was the core of life. Education was seen as a way to get ahead in life. His mother told him that they would sell a farm if that was required to provide money for him to go to college. On the farm a handshake of commitment was seen as binding. This is the value system in which he was brought up.

Following graduation from High School in North Carolina in 1971 Raymond received the Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Campbell University, Buies Creek, North Carolina. He earned the Master of Divinity degree in 1973 from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina. Raymond added the Master of Arts degree in Counseling Psychology in 1977 from Pepperdine University, Los Angeles, California. Raymond achieved the

Doctor of Ministry degree in 1976 from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina.

In 1973 he took on his first professional job as a college professor at Tomlinson College, Cleveland, Tennessee, the teaching arm of his denomination the Church of God of Prophecy. He served his country as an active duty Chaplain representing the Church of God of Prophecy in the United States Air Force from 1975 thru 1978. He returned to Cleveland, Tennessee in 1978 to begin his private practice of Marriage and Family Therapy. He became a regular adjunct professor of graduate level classes in Marital and Family Therapy at Church of God Theological Seminary in Cleveland, Tennessee. He developed and taught: Theories of Marital and Family Therapy; Marital and Family Therapy; Pastoral Counseling; Marriage Enrichment; Sexuality: Clinical Issues in Human Sexuality; Group Dynamics and Therapy. His daughter, Emily, was born at Shaw AFB, South Carolina while he was serving in the Air Force and his son, Aaron, was born in Bradley County.

Raymond served on active duty in the US Air Force from 15 July 1975 to 1 September 1978 in Loring AFB, Maine and Shaw AFB, South Carolina. From 1975 to 1976 he was the Staff Chaplain, Loring AFB (Strategic Air Command), Maine. His duties where he led the Protestant Parish Council and a contemporary Sunday night worship service. From 1976 to 1978 Chaplain Brown served as the staff chaplain, Shaw AFB (Tactical Air Command), South Carolina where he developed a single airman program which ministered regularly to over two hundred personnel each month and implemented a young married couples program which ministered regularly to over one hundred personnel each month. He also taught a parenting program which ministered to twenty-four parents each quarter and facilitated a couples' communication program which taught communication skills for healthier marriages. He planned and coordinated a Clergy Day with special training on marriage enrichment with special guest speaker Jim Simmons, M.D., from the medical school in Charleston, South Carolina. His other duties involved serving as chaplain assigned to the regional hospital for visitation and

coordination; he led a contemporary Sunday night worship service; conducted unit visitation and led the Protestant education program,

From 1978 to 2003 Raymond served with the Georgia Air National Guard assigned out of Dobbins AFB, Georgia and Robins AFB, Georgia. From 1980 to 1996 he was the Senior Chaplain, 116 th Tactical Fighter Wing (Air Combat Command), Dobbins AFB, Georgia where he supervised a staff of three chaplains and three chaplain assistants and led the overall chaplain program for the wing. From 1996 to 2003 Raymond was the Wing Chaplain, 116th Bomb Wing (Air Combat Command), Robins AFB, Georgia where he supervised a staff of three chaplains and three chaplain assistants and led the overall chaplain program for the wing,

Military Education

- Air War College-Correspondence, completed 2000
- Air Command and Staff College (ACSC)-Correspondence, completed 1985
- Chaplain Orientation Course
- Chaplain Middle Management Course
- Chaplain Senior Leadership Course
- Installation Staff Chaplain Course
- Academic Instructor School
- Combat Ministry Course
- ACSC Adjunct Course
- Reserve Components National Security Course
- ACSC Reserve Forces Course
- Chaplain Career Development Course on Couple Communication
- Crisis Intervention Stress Management Training
- Suicide Prevention
- Diversity Training Workshops
-

Military Deployments

2003	Georgia	Deployed to Robins AFB, GA during war with Iraq
2001-2002	Georgia	Sky Guard, Dobbins ARB, GA assigned to the Joint Exercise Operations Center
2000	Dugway, Utah	Senior Chaplain for joint exercise
1998	Dugway, Utah	Senior Chaplain for joint exercise
1996	Atlanta, GA	Summer Olympics, Senior Air National Guard Chaplain responsible for assigning, coordinating and supervising thirty Air National Guard Chaplains to all Olympic sites throughout the Atlanta area
1995	Singapore	Chaplain assigned with the 116th Tactical Fighter Wing
1990	Macon, GA	Chaplain to the Air and Army Guard personnel assigned to the Georgia Flood Relief Program
1989	Turkey	Chaplain assigned with the 116 th Tactical Fighter Wing
1988	Kunsan AB, Korea	Chaplain assigned in support of Joint Task Force Exercise
1986	Germany	Chaplain assigned with the 116 th Tactical Fighter Wing
1984	Denmark	Chaplain assigned with ANG Tactical Communication Squadron
1980	Turkey	Chaplain assigned with the 116th Tactical Fighter Wing
1976	Eglin AFB, FL	Chaplain assigned to Army Tactical Communication Group in support of joint exercise

BROWN PHOTOS



Dr. Raymond Brown



Chaplain (LTC) Gerald "Jerry" Moates
US Army Deceased
1981 - 2008

Gerald "Jerry" Moates was born 10 October 1946 in Etowah, Tennessee, the son of the Herbert and Ruth (Grant) Moates. His twin Donald was born about fifteen minutes before him. Jerry grew up in Etowah and graduated from Etowah High School in 1964. Jerry accepted the call to preach at the age 16. After graduating Etowah High School in 1964, he followed his call to ministry and became a licensed minister with the Church of God of Prophecy in 1968,

In 1965, he joined the Tennessee Army National Guard and served as both enlisted and officer until he changed branches and became an active duty US Army Chaplain in 1981. He progressed from enlisted E1 to Sergeant E5 to 2nd Lieutenant to Captain. He completed Basic & Advanced Individual Training (AIT) at Fort Ord, California in 1967. Jerry went to Fort Benning, Georgia for training three (3) different times

graduating from the following Infantry schools: Officer Candidate School in 1970; Infantry Officer Basic in 1972' and Infantry Officer Advanced Course in 1976.

In 1971 Jerry married Patricia Annette Bell from Augusta, Arkansas. Annette served as an English and Business teacher at Tomlinson College from 1971 to 1981 before they entered active duty. In 2001 they were divorced due to the fact Annette did not live with Jerry nor accompany him on any military assignments beginning in August 1994 upon their being assigned to Fort Gordon, Georgia. She currently lives in Weaver, Alabama near Fort McClellan and Anniston, Alabama. Jerry and Annette never had any children.

Jerry attended Tomlinson College for two years. He then completed his Theology degree with Tennessee Wesleyan University and his Masters degree in Theology at University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, Tennessee. He graduated from Tomlinson College, the church college for CoGoP; Cleveland, Tennessee with an Associate of Arts in Music in 1969, In 1971 Jerry finished a Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Philosophy from Tennessee Wesleyan United Methodist College, Athens, Tennessee. He completed a Master of Religious Education in 1976 from Tennessee Independent Baptist Theological Seminary Chattanooga, Tennessee. From September 1980 to January 1981 he took an additional 19 hours of Graduate work making 91 hours total Graduate Hours, This allowed him to qualify for the US Army Chaplaincy which he entered in June 1981 onto active duty/ Chaplain (CPT) Jerry Moates graduated from the US Army Chaplain Basic Course Fort Monmouth, New Jersey in 1981 and the US Army Chaplain Advanced Course, at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey in 1987.

Jerry had a varied and illustrious Army career with most significant assignments. His Army Assignments included: From 1981 to 1984 he was assigned to Fort Stewart, Georgia where he served as Battalion, Brigade and Deputy Division Chaplain with the 24th Infantry Division;

From 1984 to 1987 he was stationed at Bueren, Germany where he served as Group Chaplain with a Missile Group; From 1987 to 1990 he was posted to Fort McClellan, Alabama where he served as Installation Troops Chaplain, Protestant Post Pastor and Military Police Regimental and Service School Chaplain Instructor; From 1991 to 1992 Tongduchon, South Korea, he served as the 2nd Infantry Division Support Command Chaplain; From 1992 to 1994 he returned to Fort McClellan, Alabama and served as Installation Chaplain Executive Officer and Chemical Regimental and Service School Chaplain Instructor; From 1994 to 1997 he reported to Fort Gordon, Georgia where he served as Military Intelligence Brigade Chaplain; From 1997 to 1999 he returned to Europe and Wiesbaden, Germany where he served as Division Artillery Chaplain and spent four (4) months deployed to Tazar, Hungary and served as USAEUR Forward Chaplain for Hungary, Bosnia and Croatia; In 1999 to 2002 Fort Polk, Louisiana where he served as Victory Brigade Chaplain; from 2002 to 2004 he was at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and served as Senior Community Chapel Chaplain and Protestant Post Pastor; From 2004 to 2006 he was at Giessen, Germany and served at Giessen Community Chaplain and from 2006 to 2008 he was posted at Hanau, Germany serving as Special Projects Chaplain, Hanau Community Chaplain and Area Support Deputy Chaplain.

Jerry Moates retired from U.S. Army Chaplaincy in Nov 2008 with over 27 years of service to God and country. Jerry spent his last few years making new friends at Dominion Senior Living in Athens, Tennessee. Gerald "Jerry" Moates, 75, of Etowah, Tennessee, passed away on Friday, October 15, 2021 at Starr Regional Medical Center and is buried at the McMinn Memory Gardens, Athens, Tennessee. May our fallen chaplain comrade "Rest in Eternal Peace!"

MOATES PHOTOS





LCDR, Chaplain Daniel L Kurbis
United States Navy Deceased
1974 - 1994

Daniel Kurbis was born to Frederick Emanuel and Betty Kurbis on 1 July 1942, in Benton Harbor, Michigan. He grew up in a rural community and married his childhood sweetheart, Connie J. Parritt. Dan utilized a number of different modes of transportation to visit his dear Connie. First, he came calling on a bicycle. Then it was on his horse named Flame. Next it was on a motor scooter and finally in a car. Dan had eyes only for Connie and the writing was on the wall that these two would be married one day and spend their lives together. Dan and Connie were married on March 26, 1960, in Sodus, Michigan. After that, Dan would enlist in the Navy. His first tour of duty as a Sailor was at Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida.

After serving in the Navy for three years and receiving an honorable discharge, Dan and Connie would return to their home in Michigan. There they started attending the Church of God of Prophecy in Sodus. Dan had no church background of any kind, but God soon started tugging at his heart. Dan and Connie were both saved and joined the church in February 1964. Shortly thereafter, Dan received God's call on his life to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ but felt that he needed more training and education. He then moved his wife and three daughters, Danette, DeAnna and Christy, to Cleveland, Tennessee to attend Tomlinson College. While in college, he sensed that God was calling him back into military service as a Chaplain. Dan realized that for this to be possible, he had to acquire additional education. Dan decided to remain in Cleveland where he attended and graduated from Lee College. Knowing that he needed a graduate degree to qualify for the Chaplaincy, Dan would relocate his family to Ohio. There, Dan attended Ashland Theological Seminary in Ashland and the Cleveland Psychiatric Institute where he earned a Master of Divinity with a major in Pastoral Psychology and Counseling. During the time that Dan was in seminary, he would also assume the responsibility of pastoring a small Church of God of Prophecy in Willard, Ohio. Dan knew that serving as a local Pastor would provide him with the practical ministry experience needed to qualify him for the Chaplaincy. After completing these requirements, Dan sought and received an endorsement from the Church for military chaplaincy. He then made application and was approved for a commission in the United States Navy Chaplain Corps.

After completing the Navy Chaplain's School in Newport, Rhode Island, Dan received orders to Camp Pendleton, California for his initial tour of duty as a Chaplain of Marines. Dan loved serving with Marines. This was evidenced by the number of ways Dan's ministry impacted the lives of so many Marines for Christ. Dan was an inspirational Bible teacher and preacher and his ministry among Marines would bear much fruit for the Lord.

While stationed in California, God sent a great revival. Marines were getting saved and filled with the Holy Spirit. These Marines were hungry for God and wanted a place to pray. Dan would accommodate their request by allowing them to use a room over the base chapel in the evenings. One night, while Dan and Connie were in bed, the phone rang, and a Marine by the name of Chuck called to say, “Chaplain you are not going to believe this, someone just received the Holy Ghost.” Dan and Connie could hear them all rejoicing in the background. This was the fruit of Dan’s labor of love on behalf of his Marines. Several of these Marines would later answer God’s call and go into the ministry. One married and then went to Japan as a missionary. After returning to the states, he started a business and used the profits to send his own children to Japan as missionaries.

Dan baptized many converts to Christ in the Pacific Ocean. He would just wait for the waves to come in and push them under. A statement Connie can still hear Dan say was, “I have to get this right--this could be the only gospel some of them will ever hear.” Dan was a gifted communicator and fully committed to his calling as a Navy Chaplain. Dan understood the value and importance of a ministry of presence. He was always out in the field witnessing one-on-one with the troops. Dan had a fire in his soul for the Lord and he could not help but pass it on to his Marines.

While at Camp Pendleton, Dan was diagnosed with cancer, of which God would miraculously heal him. After months of surgeries, radiation, limited duty, and a partial tour on the USS Ogden, Dan was sent home via medevac. Much prayer and fasting were done on Dan’s behalf. The pastor and two deacons from the Willard, Ohio Church of God of Prophecy, felt a need to come and pray for him. They drove straight through from Ohio to California, prayed and spent the night, then drove back to Ohio the next morning. In the meantime, Dan had a visitation during the night with an audible voice saying, “**You are healed.**” Dan woke Connie up to see if she had spoken to him. Connie assured him

that she had not. Dan went back to his doctor and requested a new x-ray. The x-ray showed the tumors in the chest were gone! During this time, Washington DC held a medical board review and decided to discharge Dan, citing “**death imminent**”. After being discharged, Dan returned to Cleveland, TN and began raising cattle.

He had regular physical examinations in Bethesda, Maryland Naval Hospital. After three years of annual check-ups, the doctors gave Dan a **clean bill of health** and said he could permanently retire or go back on active duty. The Navy had never brought anyone back to active duty after being medically discharged and classified as “**death imminent**”. Since this was a new procedure for the Navy, the process of Dan returning to active duty took six months to complete,.

Now, back on active duty again, Dan’s first orders were to the Naval Shipyard in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he also conducted services at the base chapel and ministry in the brig facility. From Philadelphia, Dan received orders to Naval Weapons Station and Submarine Base in Charleston, South Carolina.

While in South Carolina, Dan was contacted by CAPT Barns, whom he had worked with in Philadelphia. CAPT Barns asked Dan if he would consider planning a prison ministry program and work at the newly built, Naval Consolidated Brig. This proved to be a very productive and fruitful ministry. Many young men and women were saved through Dan’s ministry. Dan and Connie would take them to the local Baptist church to get baptized. Dan believed in baptisms! A highlight of Dan’s ministry at the brig was at the last service he held there. The inmates came out with a basin of water and towels, had Dan sit in a chair, and proceeded to wash his feet. Dan was overwhelmed with tears, joy, and thanks to God, because they were learning to be servants.

After leaving Charleston, Dan received orders to Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina. He especially liked working with

the Marines. However, Dan's tour at Cherry Point was shortened due to President Clinton's downsizing of the military.

After his release from the Navy in 1994, Dan and Connie would once again return to Cleveland, Tennessee. Dan continued to work for the Lord as an Associate Pastor and Bible study teacher at Keith Street Church of God of Prophecy. Dan would also serve as an adjunct professor at Lee University, teaching Old and New Testament classes. Many of his students would remark that he was one of the best teachers they had ever had. Dan had a special ability, a gift from God, to make the Word of God come alive to his students. Dan had a running bible study, sometimes three per week, for over 40 years.

Noteworthy also of Dan's ministry was the positive and encouraging influence he had on other young ministers. During his time at Keith Street Church, Dan's love for God and the Chaplaincy was so compelling, that it impacted a fellow Church of God of Prophecy minister by the name of Bill Reed, to also pursue and devote 30 years of his life and ministry as a Navy Chaplain.

Dan went to meet his Savior on 13 September 2010. God knew Dan's heart, and we will know the fruit of his labor when we all get to heaven. God gives the awards! Connie considered it a privilege to minister with Dan everywhere he went. Dan could not have asked for a more loving, dedicated, and devoted wife than Connie. She was the perfect companion for him in life and ministry. Connie says of the life and ministry they had together, "God is good, and He receives the glory for all. I repeat . . . God is Good!"

Prepared by Connie Kurbis (Dan's widow)

KURBIS PHOTOS





CAPT, Chaplain William (Bill) A. Reed
United States Navy
1982 – 2011

Bill Reed was born on 20 February 1951, to William C. and Carrie B. Reed in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Bill was the second of four children and all his siblings, an older sister and two younger brothers, still reside in Tuscaloosa. Bill was raised in a loving home environment, but his family did not attend Church, except on special occasions and holy days. Bill remembers a large picture of Jesus kneeling in prayer on display in their living room and a large family Bible on their coffee table. Bill assumed the presence of both the picture and Bible indicated at least the existence of some degree of faith, even though not being practiced, on the part of his parents. Both of Bill's parents and all his siblings would eventually come to faith in Christ. Bill thoroughly enjoyed growing up in close proximity to his grandparents and a host of other cousins, aunts, and uncles. He would periodically attend a church service with his uncle's family at the Cottondale Church of God of Prophecy. Bill had

great admiration for his uncle and the faith he not only professed but lived out daily. However, for Bill, it was not until his mid-teens that he would attend a youth revival in Bessemer, Alabama with his cousin and respond to an invitation to give his life to Christ. Bill did not fully understand the meaning of all of this; however, for him it was a marker for the beginning of what would be, at this juncture in his life, a somewhat naïve and clumsy attempt in following Christ. Bill found that letting go of some of his old habits did not come easy. It would involve a series of ups and downs, gradual growth as well as setbacks. However, Bill looks back on those days and sees how God's patient hand was at work, refining, and preparing him for a life of ministry. After graduating high school, Bill would work a few odd jobs before deciding to take a course in drafting at a local technical school. Bill would attend this training for one year while working in the Emergency Room and Intensive Care Unit of a local hospital. Bill enjoyed his work at the hospital and found it quite rewarding. In fact, he toyed with the idea of pursuing a medical career, but God had other plans. At this time, the Vietnam War was still in progress and the Military Selective Service Act made registrations for the draft compulsory. All men had to register within a period 30 days before and 29 days after their 18th birthday and became draftable at age 19. Bill remembers having to take a bus to Montgomery, Alabama to the induction center for a physical. He remembers his mother picking him up at the bus station in Tuscaloosa afterwards and as they drove home making the comment to her that one day, he might become a minister. This statement came out of nowhere and needless to say, was somewhat surprising to his mother. Preferring not to be drafted in the Army, Bill decided to take an entry exam to see if he could qualify for enlistment in the Air Force. Bill's dad had served in the Army-Air Corps during WWII and encouraged him to enlist in the Air Force. Bill passed the entry exam and enlisted in the Air Force where he would spend the next four years on active duty. Bill was then sent to San Antonio, Texas for Basic Training at Lackland AFB. Every

Airman was given the chance to submit three preferences for their first duty station. Bill submitted Gulf Port, Montgomery, and Panama City, all having Air Force Bases and being close to sweet home Alabama. He would get none of his preferences and instead be sent to Luke AFB, Arizona. Welcome to the military! Bill says he got nothing that he requested but everything that God knew he needed. Thank God that He doesn't give us everything we think we need. Arizona would be a true Godsend and contribute to the trajectory Bill's life would take. While at Luke AFB, Bill would be assigned to the 607th Tactical Air Control Squadron, a mobile radar squadron. Bill would make several deployments with the 607th. The first of the F/A-15 eagles would be introduced to Luke during this period. Bill remembers seeing President Gerald Ford who came to Luke for a special ceremony on the day the F/A-15s arrived. While at Luke, Bill would attend the Phoenix Church of God of Prophecy. It was there that he would meet and marry the love of his life, Renee. Renee was the daughter of Allan and Harle Eliason who had served as missionaries for the Church of God of Prophecy in Auckland, New Zealand in the early 60s. Renee has very fond memories of her childhood in New Zealand. In fact, Bill and Renee have traveled to New Zealand on several occasions and actually stood in the living room of the old home where her parents held church services and Bible studies. While there, Bill and Renee were also able to meet with a woman who had regularly attended the services her parents offered in their home. Bill and Renee would marry on August 10, 1972, in Phoenix and will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year. Bill recalls how he and his father-in-law would spend hours talking about the Bible. Bill loved their time together and the many topics they would discuss. Bill felt those conversations contributed significantly to both his personal and spiritual growth. Bill thanks God for those times and the impact they made on his life. After completing a four-year enlistment, Bill was honorably discharged from the Air Force as a Sergeant. From Phoenix, Bill and Renee would move to Cleveland,

Tennessee where he attended and graduated from Tomlinson College. Renee worked as a receptionist for the college during this time and loved her job and the people she worked with. After graduation, Bill and Renee returned to Arizona where he attended and received his Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Behavioral Sciences from Grand Canyon University. While pursuing his degree, Bill served as the State Youth Director, Associate Pastor of the Phoenix Church of God of Prophecy, and Pastor of the Paradise Valley Church of God of Prophecy, serving under Overseers Joe Rickard and Eddie Mounce. After completing his bachelor's degree, Bill and Renee returned to Cleveland, Tennessee to attend the Church of God Theological Seminary. Here Bill would receive a Master of Arts degree in Religion. It was during this time in Cleveland that Bill and Renee were blessed with their first child, Julie Michelle. Julie suffered Erb's palsy and a fractured clavicle at birth, but God would heal her a few months later. While in Cleveland, Bill and Renee attended the Keith Street Church of God of Prophecy where he served as a Pastor-in-Training and Associate Pastor for one year under the tutelage of Pastor Roy Cantrell. Bill appreciated the supervision and the time they spent together each week discussing different aspects of pastoring and ministry. After graduation, Bill and Renee aspired to do a two-year overseas mission commitment for the Church and began the required fundraising. However, after a few months of frustrations with their somewhat stifled fundraising efforts, Bill would have conversations with his father-in-law Allan and Navy Chaplain Dan Kurbis that would pique his interest and desire in pursuing an endorsement from the Church as a military Chaplain. Bill felt greatly encouraged in his pursuit of chaplaincy ministry by a powerful sermon Chaplain Kurbis preached at Keith Street Church on "Compelled by the Love of God." Bill and Renee both believe that God also used those fundraising frustrations to redirect them into the military Chaplaincy. Bill lacked a few graduate hours needed to meet the educational requirements for the Chaplaincy, so he returned and completed a Master of Divinity from the Church of

God Theological Seminary. After acquiring the 90 semester hours of graduate study needed, Bill requested and received his endorsement from the Church of God of Prophecy for the Navy Chaplaincy. Having met the Navy's requirements, Bill immediately made application to the United States Navy Chaplain Corps. He went through the required screening process and was accepted for a commission in the United States Navy. Bill had his commissioning service at the Church of God Theological Seminary Chapel with several Church of God of Prophecy officials in attendance. Now for his new career and adventure.

Regarding Bill's military assignments, a few vignettes have been included which, hopefully, will help the reader to better understand the challenges, joys, and complexities associated with being a military Chaplain. Bill would leave Cleveland, Tennessee in March 1982 with orders in hand to attend the eight-week Navy Chaplain's Training Course at Naval Education and Training Command in Newport, Rhode Island. Renee and Julie remained in Cleveland while Bill attended the school in Newport. Bill found the Chaplain's School and prospect of doing ministry in the military to be somewhat intimidating. It was during this time that the Lord reassured Bill that he need only walk humbly before Him and trust that He had a plan for his life. Bill would eventually come to see that the military Chaplaincy was an ideal fit for his skill set and gifts. Bill successfully completed the Chaplain's Basic Course in May of 1982 and was very appreciative of the fact that Reverend Bobby Snow, Endorsing Agent for the Church of God of Prophecy, made the trip to Newport to attend his graduation ceremony.

It should be noted that Navy Chaplains are assigned with the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. This was a feature of Navy Chaplaincy that Bill found quite appealing. The chaplain wears the uniform of whatever branch he or she is serving with. Needless to say, Bill collected quite an assortment of uniforms during his 30-year Navy career. Another unique feature of service with the Navy and Coast Guard, is the different titles for each rank. For example, a Captain (CAPT) in the

Navy is a Colonel in the Army and Air Force. These are just some distinguishing features of ministry with the sea services. With regards to uniforms, in the Navy, the chaplain wears the symbol of his faith group he represents on the left collar over the heart (a cross for Christians/Catholics) and his rank on the right collar. Chaplain Kurbis had encouraged Bill to never forget who his true boss was and to lead from the left collar rather than the right.

From Newport, Bill would return to Cleveland to collect Renee and Julie, before proceeding to their first operational tour of duty with the 2nd Force Service Support Group at Camp LeJune, North Carolina. This was Bill's first opportunity to see what it was like to be assigned to a Marine Corps unit and work directly for an Executive Officer (XO) and Commanding Officer (CO). Bill would learn that one of the key responsibilities of the chaplain is to advise the Commanding Officer with regards to personnel and mission. The chaplain is the Commander's advocate of religious, moral, ethical, and spiritual well-being and resiliency. To fulfill this role effectively, Bill saw that it was extremely important for him to be out and about with his Marines, keeping his ear to the ground as they say. This involved participating in such training events as field exercises, force marches, and battalion runs, to name a few. Where the Marines go, the chaplain goes as well, whether it is a training exercise or an actual combat situation. Bill recalls one Battalion run when he found himself struggling to keep up with the rest of the Battalion. As the run proceeded, Bill fell several yards behind and could see the Marines pulling further and further away, but he didn't stop running. All of a sudden, the CO turned the entire Battalion around and came back to collect their chaplain. This was early in his career when Bill was still trying to build up his endurance. This, while humbling, motivated Bill so much that he finished the run with his Battalion and never fell behind again on a run. Bill learned a valuable lesson that day about Marines; they leave no one behind and they appreciate their chaplains. Being out and about is one important way the chaplain builds

trust, acceptance, and credibility. Bill would come to see that Marines also appreciate the role chaplains can play in military readiness and mission accomplishment. Military chaplains are asked to provide for their own faith group, facilitate for other faith groups, and care for all. The chaplain is there to care for everyone, regardless of faith group or if the service member has no professed faith at all. Bill saw caring for all of his Marines as the best way to represent Christ. Bill found great satisfaction in ministry to his Marines and the preaching opportunities afforded him at the different chapels on Camp LeJune. When not deployed or in the field with Marines, Bill and his family would attend the Church of God of Prophecy in Bogue, North Carolina, approximately 20 miles from the Marine Corps Base at Camp LeJune. On occasion, Bill would have opportunity to preach there. While at Camp LeJune, Bill was assigned to the 8th Communication Battalion, the 2nd Medical Battalion, the 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion, and deployed with the 4th Marine Amphibious Brigade. Bill and Renee experienced the joy of having their second child, Kimberly Ann, and third child, William Andrew, born while at Camp LeJune. Bill was deployed at sea when his son Andy was born. Bill would hear five days later about Andy's birth and that he had been born on Bill's birthday.

This is a fitting time to comment on the importance of having a spouse who fully supports your military ministry. Renee proved to be the perfect military spouse in every regard. She would provide Bill unwavering support throughout the duration of his military career. She would spend many days during Bill's short and extended deployments as the sole care provider for the children, handling, and might I say splendidly, all the affairs of the household in Bill's absence. Bill attributes Renee's exceptional support as a key to his ministry success. It was during this first tour of duty with the Marine Corps that Bill would gain an even greater appreciation for the role chaplains play. It was on October 23, 1983, that tragedy struck in Beirut, Lebanon when a suicide bomber drove a truck underneath the four-story building housing the

U.S. Marine barracks and detonated 12,000 pounds of TNT. The explosion reduced the building to rubble and killed 220 Marines, 18 sailors, and three soldiers. This incident would result in the deadliest single-day death toll for the United States Marine Corps since the Battle of Iwo Jima in World War II. The majority of those killed were with the 24th Marine Amphibious Unit from Camp LeJune. Bill, along with several other chaplains, would spend the next few weeks doing a job that is perhaps the most difficult for a chaplain; delivering missing in action, wounded in action, and killed in action notifications to the families of those Marines and Sailors. The chaplain accompanies the Casualty Assistance Call Officer (CACO) on these notifications. You can probably imagine the reactions of those family members when they saw the chaplain and CACO Officer coming up the driveway or at their front door. Bill would have to deliver a number of killed in action notifications throughout his career, especially while serving with the Marine Corps. A combined memorial service was soon held at Camp LeJune in remembrance of those fallen Marines, Sailors, and Soldiers. Bill and Renee vividly remember that solemn occasion and watching President Ronald Reagan and Nancy move among the families offering their prayers, condolences, and support. There was a Navy Chaplain inside the barracks on that dreadful day of the explosion in Beirut. He was buried underneath the rubble but was later uncovered, rescued, and survived. As one can see, the military chaplaincy is not for the fainthearted. It can indeed be quite difficult, dangerous, and demanding in many ways. That is why any minister considering the military chaplaincy should understand the possibility and probability that they will be called upon to accompany their Marines or Sailors into combat. Bill could see that this ministry was not going to be anything like he had experienced by serving a local church. Not that one is more important than the other, but it is more about what the minister feels called to. Bill loved the many opportunities he was given to speak God's word into the lives of his Marines who brought him their cares and concerns. Bill

remembers leading a Marine to faith in Christ during a counseling session in his Battalion office and the Marine wanted to be baptized. Bill took him to a nearby pond on Camp LeJune and proceeded to enter the water to baptize the Marine. It just so happened that an entire Battalion of Marines (approximately 600-700) were out on a battalion run that day and came upon Bill and the newly converted Marine. The Commanding Officer of the Battalion immediately saw what was happening and brought his entire Battalion to a halt. With an on looking audience of several hundred Marines, Bill proceeded to conduct the baptism service. Afterwards, the entire Battalion of Marines applauded and gave a big “oohrah!” Truly an unforgettable moment for the Marine and the chaplain and hopefully for the Marines who witnessed the ceremony! Bill would have many opportunities to share his faith and speak the truth of God’s word into the situations and struggles his Marines were facing. Another important fact that any candidate considering the military chaplaincy should consider is that he or she will be working and training with chaplains of other faith groups and often have a supervisory or senior chaplain from another denomination. For example, Bill’s first supervisory chaplain was CAPT John Weaver, endorsed by the Lutheran Church of America. Chaplain Weaver was a very wise, caring, and knowledgeable chaplain, someone whose guidance Bill grew to greatly respect and appreciate. The Navy Chaplain Corps has a motto that Bill found very appropriate for ministry within the context of the military, “cooperation without compromise”. Bill felt and sensed a spirit of collegiality among the other chaplains he would come to know and work with. Bill thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie of the Navy Chaplaincy and the lasting friendships he would make with chaplains of other denominations. A couple of months after Bill returned from a cold weather training deployment in Norway with his Marines on the USS Pensacola, he and his family received orders for their first overseas tour of duty on the island of Guam.

In Guam, Bill was assigned to the Commander of Naval Forces Marianas and would serve as a special staff member on a team of counselors and helping professionals at the Navy Family Services Center. Here, Bill would provide pastoral care and counseling to Sailors and Marines and their family members stationed in Guam. Bill would work on a team of professionals that offered training and counseling for families who had been involved in a domestic dispute. In addition, he would provide training sessions on marriage enrichment, anger management, stress management, and suicide prevention. He would also conduct pre-deployment and post-deployment briefings for the service members and families of deploying commands. On Sundays, as needed, Bill would provide pulpit support for the Navy Chapels. Bill and his family loved their time on Guam and used the space available flights from Anderson AFB to travel to several destinations around Asia and throughout the Pacific. During this tour, Bill was also able to make his first trip to the island of Iwo Jima as well as several other islands sprinkled throughout the Marianas and Western Pacific. He would have the opportunity to return to Iwo Jima on two other occasions during his career. Guam has some of the most exotic and beautiful beaches in the world and Bill's family loved spending time at them on weekends. While on Guam, Bill would also provide chaplain support to a Navy Seabee Detachment assigned there. As a result, he was invited by senior leadership to become an honorary Seabee. It was indeed a privilege to be asked to join their ranks; however, it involved an initiation process which Bill would happily endure. This was only one of several initiations and longstanding Naval traditions Bill would participate in during his career.

After Guam, Bill's third tour of duty would take him and his family back to the Marine Corps he loved. Bill was next assigned to the 2nd Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion and Marine Air Control Squadron of the 3rd Marine Air Wing Detachment at Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, Arizona. This was quite a change of scenery for Bill and his family,

going from a beautiful pacific island to the desert! During this tour, Bill and Renee would enjoy hosting Reverend Bobby Snow, who at that time was serving as Endorsing Agent for the Church. While there, Brother Snow was able to attend a celebration of the Marine Corps Birthday. Bill would offer the invocation and introduce Bobby Snow as his special guest. Brother Snow indicated that this was one of the most patriotic and memorable military events he had ever attended. Bill would spend many days in the desert with his Marines during this tour, providing ministry of presence, worship services, Bible studies, and pastoral care and counseling. It was also during this tour that Bill would be assigned to a unit whose Commanding Officer was not particularly fond of him or chaplains in general. Bill and Renee began praying about this situation and trusting that God would change the Commanding Officer's attitude. Bill did not understand what the issue was, but he knew that it needed to change. It is truly amazing how God answers prayer. It was on the occasion of a memorial service that Bill conducted on behalf of a fallen Marine assigned to the Battalion that this relationship would drastically change for the better. Following the memorial service, attended by the Commanding Officer and all the Battalion, the CO ask the XO to have Bill come into his office. Bill was concerned and didn't know what to expect. Bill prayerfully proceeded to his office, reported, and the CO promptly informed him that the memorial service he had conducted was one of the most memorable and meaningful services in honor of a fallen Marine he had ever attended. From that day on, the Commanding Officer and Bill enjoyed the best of relationships. Bill would now receive nothing but the utmost support and encouragement from his Commanding Officer. God did something in that service that touched this Commanding Officer's heart. Bill didn't know exactly what it was, but he could sense the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit moving from pew to pew during that service. It was definitely a God-thing!

While at Yuma, Bill would be selected by the Navy to attend a year of Post Graduate studies at Emory University (Candler School of

Theology) and Columbia Theological Seminary. These orders would take Bill from Yuma to Atlanta, Georgia. During this year of Navy funded study, Bill received a specialization in Pastoral Care and Counseling with additional training in Spirituality. Classes at Columbia on Spiritual Direction and Discerning the Will of God provided insightful exercises which Bill would use in counseling sessions throughout his Navy career. Bill and his family would attend the Jonesboro Church of God of Prophecy during their stay in Atlanta.

After completing his year of post-graduate studies in Atlanta, Bill received orders for his second overseas tour of duty to Naval Air Station, Keflavik, Iceland. Here he would serve as the Protestant Chapel Program Coordinator. This would prove to be one of the most interesting and intriguing tours of duty for Bill and his family. There were a total of five Chaplains, four Protestant and one Catholic, assigned to the Naval Air Station in Iceland at any given time. One of the Protestant Chaplains was Air Force, assigned to cover their squadrons. The Air Force had their F/A-15 Eagle Tactical War fighting Aircraft Squadron, which at that time would be scrambled to escort Russian aircraft out of Icelandic airspace. Whereas, the Navy had their trusted P-3 Orion, a four-engine, turboprop anti-submarine and maritime surveillance aircraft assigned there. Bill would periodically fly missions with the P-3 crew, which often lasted several hours. Again, it's all about ministry of presence and being with those you are called to serve, whether in the air, on land, or at sea. Iceland provided some of the most enjoyable ministry for Bill of his career as he had a packed chapel every Sunday and a superb group of chaplains to work alongside. Bill and his family loved exploring Iceland, staying at farm villages with the Icelanders, swimming in the thermal heated pools, climbing on glaciers, visiting the many waterfalls and geysers, and a host of other amazing activities. Renee especially enjoyed visiting the local fish market near the base. Fresh fish daily from the icy waters around Iceland made for some of the best meals ever. The interior of Iceland has much greenery, and many

say it should have been named Greenland and Greenland, Iceland. Bill had opportunity to fly into Greenland on P-3 missions and experience their frigid cold and icy runways, often spotting arctic foxes around the base. While assigned in Iceland, Bill and Renee would both have the opportunity to participate in a longstanding tradition of “The Order of the Blue Nose” ceremony. Blue Nose is a tradition related to crossing the Arctic Circle. On a ship it involves successfully completing a list of challenges before being declared a “Blue Nose” while the crossing the line ceremony in the air is a little more tame and less demanding. A special Blue Nose certificate is awarded and the person’s nose is painted blue. Bill received his Blue Nose early in his career crossing the Arctic Circle on board the USS Pensacola; however, he would also make several crossings in Naval aircraft. Renee and Julie both received their “Blue Nose” while stationed in Iceland.

Bill’s next tour of duty took him and his family to San Diego, California where he was assigned as the Command Chaplain aboard LPH-10, USS Tripoli. Prior to Bill’s arrival, the ship had taken a mine in the gulf and was in dry-dock for repairs. Being assigned to a ship can be one of the most arduous and demanding duties for a chaplain. There is much time spent underway and separated from families. Again, during the many times deployed, Renee did a superb job in taking care of the family and household. This made it easier for Bill to concentrate on his ministry. On board many ships, the chaplain, as a special staff officer, has a private state room which affords some solitude when underway. On the USS Tripoli, Bill would spend his days visiting throughout the ship, conducting multiple counseling sessions, teaching a Bible study, doing daily devotions, answering emails, delivering, and responding to AMCROSS messages, attending staff meetings, working on special projects, and writing health and welfare messages to family members of Sailors and Marines. A very informative pre-deployment and post-deployment briefing is conducted for the ship’s crew and their families prior to a ship’s major deployment. The chaplain plays a vital role in this

briefing as he or she will be dealing with a host of personal and family issues both before, during, and after the deployment. It should be noted that on a ship, all the officers have some type of collateral duties (i.e., duties outside of their normal expertise). This is no exception for the chaplain. Bill's collateral duties on the Tripoli were School Officer and Library Officer. Also, it is not uncommon for the ship's chaplain to participate in Captain's Mast. Captain's Mast is the Navy term for Non-judicial Punishment (NJP). This is used when the Sailor is in violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). The Sailor's chain of command will be present for the hearing. The ship's Captain will ask the Sailor several questions and then consult the chain of command about the Sailor's abilities, effort, potential, and character. It was not uncommon for Bill, as the chaplain, to also be given the opportunity to speak on behalf of a Sailor. The chaplain could share what he knew about the Sailor and if the Sailor had sought out the counsel and help of the chaplain. While every Sailor has privileged communication (confidentiality) with the chaplain, the Sailor can give the chaplain permission to divulge or release any information that might be used to his or her advantage. Bill felt his comments would often have bearing on the Captain's decision. While every Sailor appearing at Captain's Mast did not seek out the chaplain's counsel, Bill would make it a point to approach the Sailor being charged and at least offer his services. As a note, in the Marine Corps, Captain's Mast is known as Office Hours and Bill would also be present at many Office Hours when assigned to Marines. It should also be mentioned that all ships do not have chapels and some spaces must serve as a makeshift chapel. When underway, Bill would conduct Sunday worship services in the Wardroom (the officer's mess) and Bible studies in the foc'sle (compartment at the bow or forward of the ship). When deployed, it is common for ships to be diverted to hot spots around the globe as world events dictate. This was the case on one of Bill's six-month deployments. The USS Tripoli was an Iwo Jima class amphibious assault ship designed to transport Marines

and conduct amphibious operations and landings. After being deployed for only a brief time, the Tripoli was redirected and tasked to provide humanitarian assistance and relief to the war-torn nation of Somalia. While protected by the United Nations, the United States was the leader of this operation. Somalia was in civil war, and many were dying from hunger and bloodshed in this country. This operation would subsequently require disembarking Marines of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit and Navy Seabees in support of the mission. On the day the Marines went ashore near Mogadishu, Bill remembers standing on the flight deck of the ship behind a podium with cameras from CBS, NBC, ABC, and CNN focused in on him. Surrounded by hundreds of Marines and Sailors ready to conduct special operations, Bill provided reassuring prayers, scriptures, and words of encouragement. Thank God, none of our Marines or Sailors lost their lives in that operation. However, as part of a multi-national force, the French soldiers would encounter resistance from factions of warlords which resulted in several Somalians suffering gunshot wounds. Several of the wounded Somalians would be brought to the ship for treatment. On a ship, during General Quarters, the chaplain's assigned place of duty is in Medical in order to provide comfort and prayers for the wounded and dying. On that particular night, Bill proceeded to the Medical Department to provide spiritual and moral support to the staff and assisting doctors and corpsmen with the cleaning of gunshot wounds, prepping for surgery, and holding patients that needed to be sutured. On one occasion, the ship was also exposed to gunfire from shore. This happened when the ship was steaming up and down along the coast of Mogadishu. Bill was on the flight deck jogging along with some other Sailors and Marines when he heard the Officer of the Day give the command over the 1MC to immediately clear the flight deck. Bill soon learned that rounds were being fired from shore by Somalians across the flight deck of the ship. You just never know what a day on a Navy ship in a combat zone may bring! This deployment also provided the ship an opportunity to host the

Commander in Chief, which at that time was President George H. Bush. Bill had an opportunity to dine with President Bush while he and his entourage were on the ship. President Bush, having been a Navy pilot himself, would put his arm around Bill and personally thank him for his ministry to the Sailors and Marines. He also spoke of how much he appreciated his chaplain back in D.C. Throughout his career, Bill would be afforded the opportunity to meet and speak with a number of distinguished U.S. leaders, foreign dignitaries, and celebrities. For Bill, one of the most special aspects of shipboard ministry was the privilege he had to offer the evening prayer. Each night around 2100 hours, when a Navy ship is underway, the chaplain will make his way to the bridge. There, the Petty Officer of the watch will announce over the 1MC a message that is heard throughout the ship, "Stand by for the chaplain with the evening prayer." Bill remembers many nights when deployed, his heart being full of all the cares and concerns of the crew and their family members back home. Sometimes it was hard to put all of this burden into words, however, Bill considered it an incredible opportunity for him to provide words of comfort and reassurance to his Marines and Sailors and direct their attention to the God above as another day at sea ended. It should also be noted that some of the smaller ships do not have their own chaplain on board, however, chaplains are routinely (weather permitting) transported by helicopter (holy helo) from the deck of one ship to another to provide worship services and pastoral counseling. This initiative came about through the efforts of the Chaplain Corps in order to provide more comprehensive religious coverage for Sailors and Marines deployed at sea. This is why the chaplain is required to go through water survival training. Bill remembers being dunked upside down in a helicopter simulator and having to find his way out and swim to the surface. The most difficult part of the training was the final challenge of having to do this while blindfolded, an experience Bill found very frightening. This is just one of several training requirements for shipboard ministry Bill would

complete. Another longstanding Navy tradition that Bill experienced while at sea was crossing the equator and experiencing “Wog Day,” or crossing the line ceremony. This ceremony involved embarrassing tasks, gags, obstacles, physical challenges, and good-humored mischief. Sailors and Marines who have not crossed the equator are called a “slimy wog” or “pollywog.” Once they successfully go through and complete the initiation, a certificate is awarded to the new “shellback” as a rite of passage. As a senior officer, it was optional, but a good chaplain always identifies with his troops. Bill had to crawl on all fours through slimy passageways, with his ears being filled with honey, olive oil, and soft butter, making his way up onto the flight deck, negotiating through a lengthy parachute cover filled with food scraps, and finally dunking himself in a giant container of green slime before surfacing to be declared an official shellback. It really turned out to be a fun day filled with a lot of laughter and camaraderie. It would take Bill weeks to get all of the gooey gunk out of his ears. Bill could tell that all the Sailors and Marines on board really appreciated seeing their chaplain participate along with them. This deployment would also take the Tripoli and its crew into the Arabian Sea, the Gulf of Oman, and the Persian Gulf. After a long deployment at sea, generally 6–9 months, it is very common practice for a returning ship to sponsor a “Tiger Cruise.” This is where family members and friends of the crew are invited to meet the ship in a port-of-call and ride the ship, typically one week, back to its home port. Bill’s son Andy flew out and met him in Hawaii and rode the ship back to San Diego. As a young boy, Andy had the opportunity to participate in all kinds of special and unforgettable experiences during his time with his dad at sea. Bill loved it and so did Andy. It was a wonderful opportunity for all the “Tigers” to experience and gain a better understanding of the day-to-day operations of shipboard life. Later in Bill’s career, Andy would also have the opportunity to submerge in a Navy submarine off the coast of Italy. This was a rare experience and one that only a few get to experience. He should also add that all of his

children, Julie, Kim, and Andy, experienced all kinds of unique opportunities that they would not have known had it not been for Bill being in the Navy. For example, when the family would travel throughout the Far East on space available military planes, the pilots would let the kids sit in the jump seat up front for take-off and landing. When the family flew on a KC-135 or KC-10 refueler, the boom operator would allow the children to get in the boom seat in the back of the plane and operate the boom that supplies fuel to the other aircraft. These are just a few of the unique experiences military children can enjoy.

From the decks of Tripoli, Bill and his family would be assigned to the Naval Education and Training Program Management Support Activity in Pensacola, Florida. There Bill would be responsible for the design, development, and delivery of Professional Development Training Courses (PDTCs) and Professional Development Training Workshops (PDTWs) for the Navy Chaplain Corps. This required Bill work with a number of different seminaries throughout the country and coordinate contract work with several very prominent scholars in the fields of Homiletics, Pastoral Counseling, Family Ministry, Ethics, Theology, Church Growth, Old and New Testament Studies, Hermeneutics, and Spirituality. In this assignment, Bill traveled throughout the country and globe to various Navy and Marine Corps Bases to serve as the On-Site Training Manager for the courses and workshops being offered. During this tour, Bill and Renee would attend the Church of God of Prophecy in Pensacola.

After two years, Bill received orders to Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan where he served as the Marine Air Group 12 (F/A-18 Hornet) Chaplain. The F/A-18 is a twin-engine, supersonic, all-weather, carrier-capable, multirole combat jet, designed as both a fighter and attack aircraft. Bill and those Chaplains assigned under his supervision, provided ministry support to these aviation units and their family members. This required that Bill deploy to several locations throughout

Asia, various islands in the Pacific (e.g., Wake Island), and throughout Australia. Bill would log hundreds of hours in a KC-130 Hercules and other military aircraft flying from Japan to these training sites. During his career, Bill would have the chance to fly on the majority of fixed and rotary wing assets of the Navy and Marine Corps. Some of those flights, especially on the rotary wing aircraft, were a bit unnerving. When not deployed, Bill and his chaplains would also share preaching responsibilities at the Base Chapel. Bill would also coordinate and arrange for Marines and Sailors to do Community Relations Projects (COMRELs). Bill would recruit volunteers to go out into the local host nation communities to conduct an assortment of different projects such as repairing and painting an orphanage, building a playground, repairing schools, visiting nursing homes, teaching English and other basic skills, and doing clean-up projects. These projects went a long way toward enhancing the image of the Marine Corps and Navy with the respective host nation. Living on mainland Japan provided Bill and his family a number of opportunities to experience the true Japanese culture and engage in a variety of ways with the local Japanese people. Renee taught an English class to the local Japanese and made friends that, even to this date, stay connected with her. Julie, Kim, and Andy all played sports while attending the Department of Defense Schools on base and had several opportunities to travel throughout Asia with their sports and debate teams.

From Japan, Bill would be transferred to Naval Support Activity, La Maddalena, Italy. The Navy had a submarine repair ship ported there off the coast of Sardinia. Bill ran the Protestant Chapel Program on La Maddalena as well as provide pastoral care and counseling for the ship's personnel and families. La Maddalena is a beautiful resort island belonging to Italy and a summer vacation spot for both the Italians and French. Bill and his family loved their time there and the opportunities for ministry it provided them. Renee was always active in Chapel ministry and frequently offered a Women's Bible study. Bill and Renee

would also offer Marriage Enrichment Seminars for the service members and their spouses which proved to be a big hit, especially on an isolated place like La Maddalena. Bill recalls doing baptisms in the beautiful waters of the Mediterranean. Since the area was Catholic, the Italians on the beach enjoyed watching Bill baptize newly converted Sailors and family members. As a Protestant Chaplain, Bill was frequently invited to lunch by the local Catholic Priests. This opened several doors for Bill to do ministry and these gatherings also provided a great opportunity for building relationships with the local church leaders. The lunches they provided at the church were always delicious and, of course, included five or six courses. Bill would be invited by the local Priests to participate in special religious events that were conducted in the Piazza (public square and gathering place) and through the streets of La Maddalena. While there, Bill was also assigned the collateral duty as School Officer. The Navy had an elementary school on the island, however, the junior high and high school age kids had to attend boarding school in either London or Rome. Some chose to stay on the island and home school. Bill coordinated all the arrangements with the schools and made frequent trips to perform health and welfare checks on the students and conduct meetings with the principal staff. Since both Julie and Kim had already graduated high school and were off to college, Andy chose to be home schooled and for the second half of his senior year, attend boarding school in London. Andy would go to London right before 9.11 which made it difficult for him to tour around London on the weekends as he had hoped. During the second year of Bill's tour at La Maddalena, he received orders for Temporary Additional Duty (TAD) to fill a two-month gapped billet as Senior Chaplain for the Stabilization Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SFOR). This was a NATO-led multinational peacekeeping force to deter hostilities, stabilize peace, and contribute to a more secure environment. Bill traveled throughout this very volatile, mine infested, and war-torn country, coordinating religious ministry among several NATO Chaplains. He also developed chaplaincy training

events for the Area of Responsibility (AOR). Bill conducted several meetings on sensitive and delicate issues with the local Orthodox, Catholic, and Muslim church leaders in hopes of promoting greater cooperation, peace, and civility. After filling this temporary gapped billet for two months, Bill returned to the beautiful island of La Maddalena to complete his tour in Italy. Bill and Renee would often take an overnight ferry from Sardinia to Rome and travel to all parts of mainland Italy such as Florence, Venice, and drive along the beautiful Amalfi Coast.

From La Maddalena, Bill received orders to Okinawa, Japan to serve as the Command Chaplain for Marine Corps Bases, Japan. Here he supervised several Chaplains and coordinated the provision of ministry for all Marine Corps Bases in Okinawa and mainland Japan. While living there, Bill and his family continued to travel and make several trips to countries in Asia. Renee took a position of buyer for the Navy Fleet Gift Shop on base and conducted several buying trips to China, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Thailand, and the Philippines. She loved the work and the chance to see and experience several countries she had not visited before. Bill and Renee would later travel together to China and Hong Kong.

After two years in this assignment, Bill received orders to become the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Chaplain, also located on the island of Okinawa. Whereas the previous assignment had been ministry with the bases of Japan and more chapel oriented, this new assignment would be more expeditionary, operational, and include multiple deployments with Marine forces throughout Asia and the Pacific. One of the most memorable deployments Bill made while assigned to the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Forces was in early January 2005 just after a Tsunami hit Thailand, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and India. The 3rd MEF would be tasked and deployed to Thailand where Bill and the command would spend almost three months providing humanitarian relief and logistical support to the areas impacted by the Tsunami. While deployed there,

Bill would travel to the various regions and sites to offer encouragement, pastoral care and counseling, worship opportunities, and coordinate religious ministry and coverage that his chaplains would provide in support of this operation. The Tsunami had taken thousands of lives. Occasionally, even vans and busloads of bodies were found. Needless to say, this took its toll on the Marines and mortuary affairs personnel working with recovery and identification of bodies. Bill remembers visiting one site in Phuket, Thailand where they had set up a makeshift mortuary outdoors in an area they had closed off to the public. He remembers being told by his guide to prepare himself for the shock of what he was about to see. As he entered the restricted area, Bill's eyes fell on rows and rows of dead bodies. There were children, adults, and teens, people of all ages and different nationalities spread out on canopies waiting to be identified. It seemed surreal and was hard for him to believe that what he was seeing was real. He then proceeded to spend time ministering to some of the Mortuary Affairs personnel who were having to deal with the daunting task of identifying all of the bodies.

A few months after returning from this deployment, Bill was selected to become the Marine Forces Pacific Chaplain. By this time in his career, Bill had traveled and trained in 45 different countries and commonwealths throughout the world. In fact, the family all made a game of it and would keep score of who had the most countries. During this four-year tour, Bill and Renee lived on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, in base housing across from Pearl Harbor. Bill spent the bulk of his time in this assignment traveling throughout the Pacific to visit chaplains and Religious Program Specialists (RPs) and participate in training exercises. It should be noted that RPs are what the Navy and Marine Corps call their chaplain's assistant. RPs provide administrative support to the chaplain and serve as the chaplain's bodyguard in combat. Chaplains do not bear arms and are deemed noncombatants. During visits throughout the Pacific commands, Bill would conduct courtesy calls on Commanding Generals and Commanding Officers of the units

to which the chaplains and RPs were assigned. The purpose was to ensure that the chaplain was getting the support from the command that was needed and to gauge what kind of relationship the chaplain had with his or her command. These visits could be very telling and at times could also be tense, especially when Bill had to address a concern brought to his attention by one of his chaplains. Thankfully, this was rare. Bill also traveled from time to time into the Gulf region to conduct health and welfare checks on his chaplains serving in such locations as Kuwait and the surrounding region. Bill would log thousands of air miles in his travels and training exercises during this tour. As a Force Chaplain, Bill was also required to make numerous trips to Washington D.C. for meetings with the Chief of Chaplains and Chaplain of the Marine Corps office.

From Hawaii, Bill would be selected to become the Deputy Chaplain of the Marine Corps. This twilight assignment as a Navy Chaplain took him to Washington D.C. to the Navy Annex/Pentagon. In this billet, Bill would be responsible for coordinating religious ministry support for the entire Marine Corps, acting as a liaison between the Chaplain of the Marine Corps and Force Chaplains. Bill would also advise the Chaplain of the Marine Corps and the Chief of Navy Chaplains on all matters relative to the status of Chaplains and RPs serving with the Marine Corps. Bill would assist in speech writing for the Chaplain of Marine Corps for special events and gatherings. On occasion, Bill would be called on to attend special planning meetings with the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps on matters related to the morale and spiritual well-being of Marines and their families. Bill would also attend weekly staff meetings at the Pentagon representing the Chaplain of the Marine Corps office. These staff meetings and briefings were with the Commandant and Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. The Commandant and the Assistant Commandant are the highest-ranking officers (4-star Generals) in the Marine Corps. Bill would also be responsible for writing and revising religious ministry policy for the

Marine Corps as well as developing programs that effectively address the concerns and needs of Marines and their families. Bill and his staff also would do extensive work on developing programs for Marines returning from combat and develop tools to help gauge the severity of those suffering from combat stress. Bill had walked the halls of many military hospitals during his career and his tour in DC would be no different. Bill would make several visits to Walter Reed and Bethesda Naval Hospitals to visit Marines who had been severely wounded in combat operations in Iraq (OIF) and Afghanistan (OEF). Many of the Marines he visited and prayed with were missing legs and arms, and some severely burned. Bill said his prayers seemed so inadequate at times, especially considering the degree of suffering and loss these Marines and their family members were having to deal with. He would often leave the hospital with a heavy heart, hoping and praying that in some small way his words and presence had helped. Bill would also be tasked to participate in drafting correspondence related to lawsuits filed against the Marine Corps alleging the unconstitutionality of the chaplaincy. This required that Bill work in conjunction with the Staff Judge Advocate's office in preparing responses in defense of the chaplaincy. Bill's responsibilities also required that he offer prayers for a number of high-level Marine Corps functions held in the DC area. Bill would be asked to conduct funerals for a couple of Marine Corps Generals being buried at the Arlington National Cemetery. Bill's retirement ceremony was held on 23 March 2011, which was attended by Chaplain Doug Stephenson, Endorsing Agent for the Church of God of Prophecy. Bill would officially retire from active duty as a Navy Chaplain on 1 June 2011.

Bill and Renee's children all loved the opportunities they were given to travel and live around the globe. Julie and Kim both attended and graduated from Lee University and Andy from Calvin College. Julie would go on to law school at Vanderbilt and Kim acquired a master's degree in Biblical Leadership from Phoenix Seminary. Andy received

his Bachelor's in Philosophy but later turned his interest toward computer technology. Today, Julie is single and an attorney for the Tennessee Valley Authority in Chattanooga and Kim is married to Tim, an Army Reserve (Lt Col) Chaplain who pastors in Ravenna, Ohio. Kim and Tim have two children, Vera, and Alena. Andy is a Computer Engineer and married to Sung Ae. They live in Chicago and have two children, William, and Anna. After his retirement from the Navy, Bill became the General Director for Global Outreach, Inc. This is a missions organization which Renee's parents started in 1986. Bill and Renee continue to actively work together in this mission's ministry and reside in Orange Beach, Alabama.

ASSIGNMENTS AND DATES OF SERVICE:

United States Air Force	Aug 71 – Aug 75
NETC Newport Student	Mar 82 - May 82
2nd Force Service Support Group, CLNC	Jun 82 – Jun 84
COMNAVBASE, Guam	Jul 84 – Jun 86
DET 3DMAW, MCAS Yuma	Jul 86 – Aug 88
PG School Emory University	Aug 88 – Jun 89
NAS Keflavik, Iceland	Jul 89 – Dec 91
LPH10 USS Tripoli	Jan 92 – Jun 94
NETPMSA CNET Saufley Field	Jul 94 – Oct 96
1ST MAW MCAS Iwakuni, Japan	Oct 96 – Nov 99
NAVSUPPACT LAMADD, Italy	Dec 99 – Dec 01
MCB SD BUTLER, Okinawa, Japan	Jan 02 – Dec 03
CG III MEF, Japan	Dec 03 – Apr 05

CG MARFORPAC, Hawaii

Apr 05 – Apr 09

HQ USMC Wash DC

May 09 – Jun 11

MILITARY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Legion of Merit (x2)

Meritorious Service Medal (x4)

Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal (x5)

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

Good Conduct Medal

Navy Fleet Marine Force Ribbon

National Defense Service Medal (x3)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Southwest Asia Service Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Humanitarian Service Medal (x2)

Sea Service Deployment Medal (x2)

Navy/Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon (x17)

NATO Medals

Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait)

REED PHOTOS





Chaplain, Colonel Jon R. Stovall
US Air Force Retired
1983 - 2011

Jon Richard Stovall was born July 22, 1956 to parents John Walter and Darlene Delores Stovall in Rapid City, South Dakota. Jon has three sibling sisters: Jonalyn Yancey of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Jinx Maude of Hermosa, South Dakota and Jennifer Slater of Pueblo, Colorado; and two sibling brothers: Doug Stovall of Hermosa, South Dakota and Mark Stovall of Fountain, Colorado. Jon lived and grew up on a cattle and horse ranch a few miles from Hermosa, South Dakota. June 24, 1979 Jon married Peggoty Autry of Autryville, North Carolina. Their first child a girl, Rylie Elizabeth was born November 15, 1982 in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Their second child a boy, Joshua Caleb was born September 21, 1984 in Omaha, Nebraska. Joshua married Laura Camacho from Columbia, South America on Aspen Peak, Colorado July 17, 1997.

At an early age Jon joined the CoGoP in Rapid City, South Dakota. Jon served in many different positions during his youth to include: Sunday School teacher and Victory Leaders Director. At the age of 12 Jon gave his life to Christ at a Wyoming/South Dakota youth camp. After graduating from high school, Jon attended Tomlinson College. While there he served as the Student Government President. With an initial calling on his life to serve as a missionary doctor, Jon went on to receive his Bachelor's Degree in Biology from the University of South Dakota. Immediately upon graduation from the university, Jon attended and later graduated in 1980 from Sioux Falls Seminary in South Dakota. That same year Jon was set forth as a CoGoP minister in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. During his higher education studies Jon and Peggoty also went on two Caribbean missionary trips sponsored by the CoGoP, one to Grenada and the other to the Netherland Antilles. After returning from the Netherland Antilles, Jon and Peggoty were offered by the CoGoP Mission's Department to serve as full-time missionaries to the Netherlands (Holland). However, due to family issues, they instead returned to North Carolina to assist in the Mt. Carmel CoGoP church and to further Jon's seminary studies. Upon graduation from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina, Jon was selected to serve as a CoGoP United States Air Force Chaplain. In January 1983 Jon took the oath of office to serve in this capacity, rather than to become a medical doctor. From April 1983 to January 2011 Jon had a wonderful career as a US Air Force Chaplain, serving at almost every position and level in the Air Force Chaplaincy. He served as unit/base chaplain, wing chaplain, Chaplain Service Institute (School) faculty member, Chaplain Assignment Officer, and lastly as a Command Chaplain overseeing all the Air Force chaplains at Arlington National Cemetery, the Pentagon and five missile /bomber bases. During Jon's career of over 27 years Jon and Peggoty participated and supported many CoGoP churches, most especially in Nebraska,

Germany and South Dakota. For the past several years Jon continues to serve the CoGoP as the Associate Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agent.

Jon graduated from Rapid City Central High School, Rapid City, South Dakota in May 1974. He attended Tomlinson College, Cleveland Tennessee and graduated with honors in 1976. He continued his college education and graduated in 1978 from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota with honors. Next he attended Sioux Falls Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota and graduated in 1980 with a Master's Degree in Religious Studies. Soon thereafter, Jon attended and graduated from Southeastern Baptist Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina with a Master of Divinity Degree. After joining the Air Force Jon attended several Air Force schools of education which included: Academic Instructor School, Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Montgomery Alabama. Additionally, in 1989-1990 Jon was selected for an Air Force assignment to study full-time at Catholic University of America, Washington D.C. with studies in Patristics and Spiritual Direction. Upon retirement from the Air Force Jon attended Denver Seminary, Denver, Colorado in 2012-2013 to study Clinical Pastoral Education.

Jon learned to work hard as a young boy growing up on a cattle/horse ranch in South Dakota. At a very early age Jon's job focused on feeding cattle, chickens and horses and all the duties that goes along with livestock. For two years in high school he served as a manager of Taco John's. During college he cleaned the college kitchen throughout the week, and on weekends he worked on a farm raising money to pay for his education. Summers he spent working for Frito Lay, Inc. as a salesman, delivering chips throughout the Midwest. During seminary he served as the Assistant to the Seminary Administrator in South Dakota. A few years later in North Carolina, with his agriculture background, he raised hogs to pay his way through seminary. In 1983 after two short missionary trips, he joined the Air Force as a chaplain and served twelve different assignments, to include two assignments to Germany, with two

war zone deployments. After Jon retired from the Air Force in 2011, that same year he accepted a pastoral call from Marble Community Church in Marble, Colorado. Jon has served as their pastor from 2011-2022. Although not a CoGoP church, it serves as the only church for many miles in this remote mountain community. Jon hopes to 'retire' from full-time ministry in the near future, travel in an RV around the United States for a few months and settle down either in Colorado or somewhere in the Carolinas. In addition to pastoring Marble Community Church, Jon serves and will continue to serve on the Board of Marble Retreat, Marble Colorado. The retreat provides care to the caregivers: Meaning the retreat provides counseling, spiritual direction, hope and healing to pastors, missionaries and Christian educators in crisis--or to those just needing a breather from the heavy demands of front-line ministry.

In April 1983 Jon received a direct commission into the United States Air Force as a 1Lt chaplain. His first duty assignment was Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha Nebraska. During this assignment he pastored two congregations, directed the Protestant Religious Education program of over 200 people, and served as the chaplain for the HQ's Intelligence Wing and served as the prison chaplain. His next assignment in 1986 was overseas to Rhein-Main Air Base in West Germany where he served as the pastor to the main Protestant service, youth pastor, and Air-Evacuation chaplain. In this capacity he led many youth retreats and flew missions with air crews picking up patients all over Europe and delivering them to one of Germany's main military hospitals in Wiesbaden, West Germany. During this assignment he also deployed to Saudi Arabia taking his turn as the only chaplain in the country. His next assignment was to Catholic University of America, Washington D.C. as one of only five chaplains selected in 1989 to attend a civilian school assignment. Then following this school assignment Jon was assigned in 1990 to Ellsworth AFB, Rapid City, South Dakota where he pastored a congregation and served as the B-1 Bomber chaplain and as the Missile

Wing chaplain. In 1994 Jon was selected to serve as a staff chaplain to the Chaplain Service Institute, Montgomery, Alabama. In this capacity he conducted chaplain retreats, offered education to chaplains in the areas of spiritual direction, singles ministry, and religious education. He also served as the speech writer for the Air Force Chief of Chaplains in Washington D.C. Jon's next assignment in 1997 was to serve as Senior Protestant Chaplain at F.E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne, Wyoming. During this time Jon supervised four active duty chaplains and two reserve chaplains. He also served as the Missile Wing chaplain spending countless hours with the Airmen standing guard in the missile silos scattered across Wyoming and Colorado. In 1999 Jon was selected to serve as a Chaplain Assignment Officer, Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, San Antonio, Texas. Here he assigned chaplains to their next duty assignment across the world. For two years Jon would assign over 500 chaplains their duty assignment. In 2001 Jon was reassigned to Charleston AFB, South Carolina as the Wing Chaplain supervising both Protestant and Catholic chaplains. Immediately upon arrival the Twin Trade Towers were struck in NYC and the Charleston C-17 airplanes immediately went into action carrying troops and cargo to Afghanistan. During this time-frame Jon would often times ride with the air crew members from Germany to Afghanistan providing support for their heavy and dangerous actions. Additionally, Jon was deployed to Bahrain with tanker crews refueling aircraft flying in and out of the war zone. In 2003 Jon was assigned to Air Force Headquarters Europe, HQ USAFE at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Here he served as the readiness officer for all deployments of both chaplains and chaplain assistants. In 2006 Jon was reassigned as the Wing Chaplain to Bolling AFB, Washington D.C. Shortly thereafter in 2007 Jon moved to Andrews AFB, Maryland as the Air Force Command Chaplain for the entire Washington D. C. district, to include Arlington National Cemetery. In this role he provided oversight to all Air Force funerals, and to all the war wounded military personnel arriving at Andrews AFB as they were transferred to Walter

Reed and Bethesda Naval Hospital in Washington D.C. Additionally, Jon served as the funeral chaplain for the President of the United States. In 2009 Jon was reassigned to Barksdale AFB, Louisiana as the new Command Chaplain for Air Force Global Strike Command. As the first Command Chaplain to this Command Jon provided leadership to all the chaplains and chaplain assistants at five Air Force missile and bomber bases scattered throughout the Midwest. On January 31, 2011 Jon retired from active duty as a Colonel in the United States Air Force.

Jon's award and decorations include:

Legion of Merit;

Meritorious Service Medal with seven devices;

Air Force Commendation Medal with two devices;

Air Force Achievement Medal;

AF Outstanding Unit Award with one device;

AF Organizational Excellence Award with two devices;

National Defense Service Medal with one device;

Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one device;

Iraq Campaign Medal with one device;

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal;

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal;

AF Overseas Ribbon Long with one device;

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon w Gold Border w one device;

AF Longevity Service with five devices;

Air Force Training Ribbon.

STOVALL PHOTOS





Chaplain, Captain, James Garner
US Air Force Deceased
1984-88

James Garner was called into the ministry in 1968 when he was a Senior in High School in Birmingham, Alabama. He then attended Tomlinson College, a Christian college of the Church of God of Prophecy, Cleveland, Tennessee, receiving an Associate Degree in Bible. He was awarded a Master's degree in English and American Literature at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He then attended Vanderbilt Divinity School, Sacred College, in Nashville, Tennessee, receiving a Master of Arts degree in Christian Education. His first Doctorate was awarded by Reich Theological Seminary and his second Doctorate through Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California.

Chaplain Garner has field experience as well, serving as a pastor of a congregation in Nashville, Tennessee. He is married to the former Karen Minter of Marietta, Georgia. She is also a graduate of Tomlinson College, Cleveland, Tennessee.



Chaplain (LTC) Kurtes D. Quesinberry
US Army, Retired
1985 to 2000

Kurtes D. Quesinberry was born in Portland, Oregon, in 1948. He is the son of a World War II Technical Sergeant combat medic and an Australian war bride. Because of his parents' marital separation, he was raised between Melbourne, Australia and rural Oregon. He is a third-generation veteran. His grandmother was one of the original Women's Army Corp soldiers, and his grandfather fought in WWI. After WWII, his father deployed during the Korean Conflict. Naturally, when the Viet Nam War raged, Kurtes enlisted in the military where he served as an Aeromedical Evacuation Technician and an Independent Duty Medic (remote site) from 1966-1970. He received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord in 1973. By 1978 he was licensed as a CoGoP minister in California and pastored the Tacoma Church of God of Prophecy Tacoma, Washington from 1980 to 1981.

Under unction of the Holy Spirit to become an Army chaplain, Kurtes joined the U.S. Army. He had no graduate or undergraduate degree, so he simply enlisted as a private at 31 years old and trusted God for the rest. Where God guides, He provides, and by 1985 His miracle was

complete. He had finished his final 3 semesters of college receiving a Bachelor of Science, Psychology (BS Psych) from the University of the State of New York Albany, New York and the entire 3-year Master of Divinity (MDiv) program at Fuller Theological Seminary, Los Angeles, California, all while on active duty. At this point he received ecclesiastical endorsement from CoGoP. The same month he graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary, he was commissioned as an Army chaplain. From 1985 to 2000 Kurt served as a U.S. Army Chaplain in both tactical and garrison settings in the US, Hawaii and Korea.

Upon his release from the US Army in 2000 Chaplain Quesinberry pastored the Manna English Church in Bundang, Republic of South Korea and served as Professor of Religious Studies at the Antioch Missions International, Suji, Korea. From September 2001 to August 2011 Kurtes was the Chair, Practical Theology Department of Torch Trinity Graduate University in Seocho-gu, Seoul, Korea. Kurtes received the Doctor of Theology (ThD) in 2008 from Asia Baptist Graduate Theological Seminary of Hong Kong, Kurtes's broad teaching history at Torch Trinity Graduate University reflects the type of interdisciplinary instruction employed in some Asian practical theology departments. Kurtes's teaching emphases were homiletics, missions, and worship.

In September 2011 he returned to the United States to pastor the Hope Unlimited Community Church Kearns, Utah and to serve as worship arts pastor for the Revelation Church Marion, South Carolina. From 2013 to 2016 Kurt served as Associate Pastor for the Christian Faith Center Wilmington, Illinois. From April 2016 to June 2019 Kurt served as pastor for worship at Shaw AFB, Columbia, South Carolina. From 2019 to present Kurt serves as staff pastor for worship at the Venture Church Sumter, South Carolina.

After active duty, he continued to serve within the military chapel system as a minister and musician. Kurtes still wears the uniform of the U.S. Army as a Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) in the South Carolina

State Guard. Kurt is assigned to a South Carolina National Guard unit through a State Guard/National Guard Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU). He recently preached at the National Guard Regional Training Center to their graduating Pre-Command students.

Kurt and his wife, Juanita, have four children, three boys and one girl. They and our eight grandchildren are spread across the U.S. and Canada (as are many military families) Their three sons served in the military, and their daughter married an Army doctor. She lives near the USAF Academy in Colorado Springs with her husband and son, raising the next generation of military, perhaps the Space Force.

QUESINBERRY PHOTOS





Chaplain, Major, Charles L. Knauer
US Air Force Retired
1987 - 2015

Charles Leslie Knauer was born 22 April 1956 to parents Wilber Crittenden and Mary Crittenden in Rapid City, South Dakota. Charles (who goes by Chuck) has a rich heritage in South Dakota, having spent much of his youth on the Family ranch on the Cheyenne River Reservation. His great uncle, Casey Tibbs, was a six-time PRCA saddle bronc-riding champion and movie star. His uncle, Calvin Smith Jr., married a Lakota woman, Rhea Annis, whose ancestor was Frederick Dupree, who brought buffalo back to the Lakota culture near Dupree SD, building up a good sized herd there. His buffalo were later sold to Custer State Park, providing the foundation for the current buffalo herd there. His mother Mary, remarried in 1968 to Bruce Knauer who was stationed at Ellsworth AFB, and later was transferred to McGuire AFB, New Jersey, where Chuck attended all four years of High School.

Chuck became a member of the Church of God of Prophecy in Rapid City, South Dakota while young, and served in many different positions to include: Sunday School teacher and Victory Leaders Director, both in the Rapid City Church and at the New Jersey Church, and the State

Victory Leaders Director in South Dakota. Chuck gave his life to Christ at the age of 16 during a Christian concert in New Jersey. After graduating from high school, Chuck attended Tomlinson College, playing basketball for the TC Trojans, and serving in Student Government, the Ministerial Association, and the Drama Club.

After Tomlinson College, Chuck attended the University of South Dakota, intending to minister to others as a Counselor, receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Masters of Arts Degree in Counseling. During his time there he was active in the Sioux Falls church, serving as a Sunday School teacher and Youth Leader. Chuck followed his calling into the ministry while at Texas Tech University at the Lubbock Church of God of Prophecy, pastoring a church in Dimmit, Texas. Chuck received a direct commission as an officer in the USAF Reserves as a Chaplain in 1987, serving both in the USAF Reserves and Active Duty. Chuck retired from the USAF on March 1, 2015.

During his 27 years of service, Chuck served in many positions as a chaplain across the USA and abroad. While a reservist at Ellsworth AFB he frequently flew with the helicopter squadron, visiting crews at remote missile sites across western South Dakota. He was selected to attend Officer Training School at Maxwell AFB in 1992, and Academic Instructor School in residence in 1993. Being selected in a competitive process to become an active-duty Chaplain in 1995, Chuck was assigned to Beale AFB in California. While there, he was one of the first chaplains to participate in the Joint Readiness Training Exercise in Ft Polk, Louisiana, a premiere war preparation training exercise. After Beale AFB, Chuck was assigned to Misawa AFB, Japan where in addition to serving as the unit chaplain for two AF units, he also served as the resident Navy Chaplain. While there he was deployed to Al Jabar AFB in Kuwait. He went on to serve both at Schriever Space Force Base and Charleston AFB as an active duty Chaplain. Chuck went to the Active Reserves in 2003, serving at Peterson Space Force Base and Cheyenne Mountain in Colorado, before returning to Ellsworth AFB,

South Dakota in his final years of duty. During that time he was activated to full time status to provide back up at Luke AFB, Thule AFB Greenland, the 302nd Airlift Wing during the forest fires of 2012 and 2013, and at Ellsworth AFB where he served as the Wing Chaplain.

Chuck graduated from Northern Burlington High School in Columbus New Jersey in May 1974. He was involved in Student Council, National Honor Society, Choir, Cross Country and Wrestling. He also was a member of Inner Peace, a Christian Youth choir, that put on inspirational concerts in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. After graduation, he attended Tomlinson College, Cleveland Tennessee and graduated Cum Laude in 1976. He continued his college education and graduated in 1978 from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, and South Dakota with a degree in Psychology Education. Getting accepted into the graduate program at the University of South Dakota, Chuck completed a Master's of Arts degree in Counseling in December of 1980. Proceeding to Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, he began work on an Educational Doctorate in Educational Counseling. Completing all course work, qualifying exams, as well as the first three chapters of a dissertation, he took time off from his academic pursuits to provide full time parenting for his two boys. Chuck was able to continue his higher educational pursuits in 2011 with his military education benefits, completing an Doctorate in Education in Adult and Higher Educational Administration. His dissertation topic combined his interest in effective leadership by comparing ROTC commanders and university department chairs in areas of transformational leadership and trust. He obtained this degree in December of 2015.

Chuck always helped out on the family ranch during the summers, and at the age of 14 worked for his grandfather moving houses prior to moving to New Jersey. His high school jobs included working for the Ft Dix/McGuire warehouse, and a tree nursery. Working his way through college, he was a personal trainer, delivery person for Coca Cola and Crown Candy, part time for UPS, as well as construction and a lifeguard.

Later, during graduate school, he was a residence hall assistant and Hall Director. While at Texas Tech University, Chuck was also the pastor of the Dimmit, Texas Church of God of Prophecy. While in the USAF Reserves, Chuck was an Educational Consultant, facilitating the success of college students at universities in the USA and Canada, as well as a volunteer Hospital Chaplain. After retiring from the USAF in 2015, he served as the Suicide Prevention Program Manager for the South Dakota National Guard, and then as a Student Support Specialist for Black Hills State University.

In June 1987 Chuck received a direct commission into the United States Air Force Reserves as a 1Lt chaplain. His first duty assignment was at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha, Nebraska, followed by Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota until he transitioned to active-duty in 1995. He was very involved at Beale AFB as an active-duty chaplain, pastoring two congregations, overseeing the Protestant Religious Education program of over 200 people, and youth director. He had an office on the flight line where the famed SR-71's flew during the cold war, and served as the chaplain for the 9th Ops Group, and prison chaplain. During his time there he received a Humanitarian Medal for his efforts in assisting those who were displaced by flooding in the area, displacing over a hundred thousand citizens. He performed funeral rites in addition to extensive visitation and ministry. His next assignment in 1998 was overseas to Misawa Air Base, the only combined, joint service installation in the Western Pacific. He served as the unit Chaplain for the 35th Maintenance Squadron, the 301st Intelligence Squadron, and the Naval Air Facility. Chuck also led a contemporary service and served as the youth pastor sponsoring hiking and skiing trips. During this assignment he also deployed to Kuwait, supporting Operation Enduring Freedom for the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing at Ahmed Al Jaber Air Base. While there he traveled with a convoy to a forward deployed unit stationed on the Iraq border to minister to the troops.

During his last year at Misawa, he served as the Naval Chaplain, developing a weekly marriage preparation program, and was selected as the only USAF Chaplain to attend the Naval Personal Growth Facilitator training in Okinawa. Returning to the USA, Chuck was then assigned to Schriever Space Force Base with Top Secret Clearance to provide ministry of presence to the 1st Space Operations Squadron which is the U.S. Space Force's premier organization for space-based space domain awareness to assure access to space by commanding satellites to collect and disseminate vital information. He initiated a leadership program for new airmen, and was selected to become a trained facilitator for the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People program by Stephen R. Covey. Chuck was then assigned to Charleston AFB in South Carolina as part of the build-up for Operation Enduring Freedom, serving as the aerial port chaplain for the 437th Airlift Wing in support of its mission to provide airlift of troops and passengers, military equipment, cargo, and aeromedical equipment and supplies worldwide in accordance with tasking by Air Mobility Command and unified combatant commanders. During this time, Chuck served on the primary team responsible for the evacuation of more than 1,300 Air Force family members and non-mission-essential civilian employees from Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, in 2003. Chaplain Knauer then transitioned into the Active Reserves and was stationed at Peterson AFB and the 21st Space Wing, the Air Force's only organization providing missile warning and space control to unified commanders and combat forces worldwide. Being activated to 6-month active duty status to provide essential backfill, Chuck provided ministry to Cheyenne Mountain and pastored two protestant services. As a result of his service there he was awarded the Space Command Annual Reserve Officer of the Year award. He was also activated to full-time status in 2011 to provide support at Luke AFB, Arizona, a major training base of the Air Education and Training Command (AETC), training pilots in the F-16 Fighting Falcon and the F-35 Lightning II Fighter Jet. He served as the primary unit chaplain, providing full support to the 56th

Fighter Wing, which the official site claims is “the largest fighter wing in the world”. With 24 fighter squadrons, and approximately 400 pilots trained at Luke each year, he was prominent at all unit activities and airmen issues. Chuck was also activated to extended full time status in 2012 and 2013 to the 302nd Airlift Wing, a tenant organization at Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado with more than 1,000 Reserve Citizen Airmen and more than 200 full-time airmen. In response to the wildfires of 2012 and 2013 and the increased stress of fighting those fires with the C-130s modified to deliver up to 3,000 gallons of fire retardant, he provided crisis intervention and suicide prevention briefings as the lead chaplain.

Chuck served as the unit chaplain during two additional extended full-time orders at Ellsworth AFB during his final years in the US Air Force, manning a flight line office and serving the 28TH Maintenance Group, and the 34th and 37th Bomb Squadrons. He also developed and facilitated Ellsworth AFB’s first full day Spiritual Resiliency Training, serving approximately 3,611 military members. On March 1, 2015 Chuck retired from active-reserve duty as a Major in the United States Air Force. He continues to serve the Ellsworth AFB Chapel as the Contingency Chaplain.

Chuck’s award and decorations include:

Meritorious Service Medal;

Air Force Commendation Medal with three devices;

Air Force Achievement Medal with two devices;

AF Outstanding Unit Award with Valor;

National Defense Service Medal with bronze star;

Armed Forces Expeditionary Ribbon;

Humanitarian Service Medal;

Air Force Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Ribbon with one device;

AF Longevity Service with three devices; and

Air Force Training Ribbon.

KNAUER PHOTOS





Chaplain (LTC) Taz W. Randles
U. S. Army Reserves
1994 - 2016

Taz William Randles originally comes from Yucca Valley, California and now lives in Cleveland, Tennessee. He comes from a multivariated and multifaceted background of career and life experience. His passion is to serve others in a caring and supportive role, specializing in mental health and crisis care. He approaches his care giving role from a servant-leadership model and whole life concept of health and wellness, encompassing the mental, physical, emotional needs of the individual while maintaining and modeling my own physical and mental health and wholeness.

He has a variety of clinical and pastoral experiences in his background. From December 2018 to the present Taz is functioning as a Licensed Mental Health Counseling Therapist/Readjustment Counseling Therapist at the Chattanooga Veteran Vet Center, Chattanooga, Tennessee. In this role he provided counseling, therapy and case management services as part of a multidisciplinary team of Readjustment Counseling Therapists, Social Workers, Vocational Outreach Program Specialists and Program Support Assistants. The Vet Center is a community-based VA facility, providing veterans with community outreach services, counseling, therapy, treatment and direct care services related to their post-combat or

other traumatic experiences, as part of their VA benefit eligibility. He assesses and conducts crisis intervention for both short and long-term services and supervises staff counselors in the crisis intervention process and provides supervision and consultation to clinical team members who conduct interviews, counseling, and therapy. As Vet Center Director, he is responsible for establishing, maintaining and conducting outreach activities with veterans, community service organizations, business and industry, professional providers and the public. He provides direct social work involving serious and complicated problems frequently encountered by veterans and their families, or significant others. He supervises mental health assessments, conduct and supervise referrals made by clinical staff to other VA outpatient and inpatient programs, and community agencies relevant to the needs of the veteran. He performs intakes and provides direct counseling to veterans with traumatic conditions related to combat exposure, diagnose mental disorders, conduct psychological or neuropsychological assessments; treat dual diagnosed mental disorders through a variety of modalities. He also provides adjunctive interventions for treatment of medical disorders for veterans

From October 2012 to December 2018 Taz worked as the Director of the Chattanooga Veteran Vet Center, Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he provided supervision and direct oversight to a multidisciplinary team of Readjustment Counseling Therapists, Social Workers, Vocational Outreach Program Specialists and Program Support Assistants. The Vet Center is a community-based VA facility, providing veterans with community outreach services, counseling, therapy, treatment and direct care services related to their post-combat of other traumatic experiences as part of their VA benefit eligibility. He supervised mental health assessments, conducted and supervised referrals made by clinical staff to other VA Outpatient and inpatient programs, and community agencies relevant to the needs of the veteran. He supervised intakes and provided direct counseling to veterans with traumatic conditions related to combat

exposure, diagnose mental disorders, conducted psychological or neuropsychological assessments; treat dual-diagnosed mental disorders through a variety of modalities. He also provided adjunctive interventions for treatment of medical disorders for veterans; assessed and conducted crisis intervention for both short and long-term services and supervise staff counselors in the crisis intervention process; provided supervision and consultation to clinical team members who conduct interviews, counseling, and therapy. As Vet Center Director, He was responsible for establishing, maintaining and conducting outreach activities with veterans, community service organizations, business and industry, professional providers and the public; provided direct social work involving serious and complicated problems frequently encountered by veterans and their families, or significant others; established guidelines and performance expectations for staff as communicate through the formal employee supervision management system. He performed program analysis, development, review, research, design, and public contact work; supervised and evaluated workers' performance, including conducting work performance critiques. He provided informal feedback and periodically evaluated employee performance and resolve informal complaints and grievances; developed work improvement plans, recommending personnel actions as necessary; supervised and counseled workers including Office managers and outreach personnel related to their work and administrative matters; He also reviewed and approved time and leave authorization using the federal Concur program for all Vet Center staff.

From May 2011 to July 2012 Chaplain Randles served as the 257th Joint Movement Chaplain at the U.S. Army, Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. He supervised and provided pastoral care, mental health and combat stress support to 480 military personnel in over 20 Movement Control Teams (MCT's) in over 22 nodes throughout the Combined Joint Operational Area of Afghanistan. He developed programs for suicide prevention, stress reduction, team building, moral and morale climate

support for the hundreds of service members impacted by war and an environment riddled with the stress of ongoing combat; provided mental and morale assessment and triage during and following traumatic events where threat to life and limb, mob, PTSD and other exposure to war trauma and combat casualties impact the mission. Many of his Soldiers and Airmen serve at entry control points where IEDs and enemy probes consistently placed them in harm's way. He implemented programs and procedures developed from a lengthy career of clinical experience and working in hospital settings, applying remedies in forward areas of initial combat and stress exposure. Much of his ten months of active deployment focused on interrupting the ongoing mental health decline of soldiers, prevent the abuse of prescription/non-prescription substances, minimize combat stress reactions and reduce the prevalence of suicide. During this deployment, he was the first external stress control team on the ground following the complex attack at Salerno Airfield, where the perimeter was breached at precisely the location where our team loaded air cargo. We performed triage and provided debriefings, educating soldiers on physical and psychological symptoms from such an attack where over 100 personnel were injured

From April 2008 to April 2011 Chaplain Randles served as the Warrior Transition Brigade Chaplain at Walter Reed Medical Center, Washington, DC where he provided multiple levels of service, including pastoral, mental health and spiritual support to over 650 soldiers healing from combat and military service-connected injuries. He was tasked with delivering a comprehensive program of care to soldiers, families and Cadre in a robust physical, mental, emotional and spiritual treatment initiative to wounded warriors. Much of his role centered on providing mental health support, counseling and advocacy to soldiers struggling from various issues subsequent to illness and combat injuries, including mTBI's, PTSD, domestic violence, alcohol and prescription drug use, as it involved their recovery efforts from combat and service related injuries. Although his position required non-clinical, pastoral ministry

responsibilities, He was quickly selected to serve on the garrison multidisciplinary treatment team addressing substance abuse issues, family violence and sexual assault issues as they impacted veteran's healing and prognosis and reconnection to their families and significant others. Precisely because of his mental health license and professional work in therapy within a family treatment model, he helped develop program models, brochures and outreach materials to veterans on a wide variety of abuse/assault prevention issues. Along with family advocacy professionals, social workers, substance abuse psychologists and other military family advocates, He labored extensively in the area of mental health treatment during my time at the Warrior Transition Brigade (WTB), including significant coverage of the inpatient mental health ward at the hospital. Our team developed treatment plans, provided advocacy and input for command action and treatment, including follow up for addiction and relational issues that threatened military families from all of the branches of service. He worked collaboratively with medical case managers and other volunteer advocacy networks within the military committee as primary liaison or the "green-suiter" military representative within the WTB at Walter Reed, helping to develop a program that was used as a model for the rest of the nation's military installations. During his tenure he provided a project, which was subsequently used in my doctoral dissertation, working directly with nine patients diagnosed with PTSD, each requiring extensive intervention to treat medical, cognitive and resulting relational detractors as they struggled to regain appropriate functioning following combat/deployment experiences.

From August 1999 to March 2008 Taz worked as the Assistant Director of counseling and Testing at Lee University where he provided professional level clinical supervision, therapeutic intervention, counseling, case management and testing services for students, staff and alumni at Lee University (enrollment of over 4,500 graduate and undergraduate students). His primary role when first hired in this

position was to provide full-time individual treatment and case management to students struggling with life challenging and career issues, substance abuse, sexual trauma, including various addictions and eating disorders. In the course of four years, He rose to the current supervisory position as Associate Director and continued at least 20 hours weekly of direct treatment to patients, where I worked with students well over a one-year period who presented with various developmental and adjustment issues. He also supervised four master's level interns and two junior clinician's who served as Licensed Professional Counselors during my time at the university. He also served as adjunct professor in the Department of Psychology teaching Crisis Intervention and crisis helpline candidates at undergraduate and graduate level. The graduate level program at Lee University is fully accredited. Other responsibilities of his position as Assistant Director including managing office administrative functions including weekly, quarterly and annual sector reports to monitor program utilization. He also performed mental health assessments, case management and student risk-triage and chaired the student at-risk committee to determine when higher levels of care, including inpatient treatment for students was needed. In addition, he taught undergraduate coursework in crisis intervention and supported educational programs for wellness within the university community.

From April 1996 to December 1998 Taz served as Camelot Care Center Clinical Director, Chattanooga, Tennessee, where his responsibilities included treating and providing clinical assessment of children, adolescents and families to determine appropriate criteria for admission to a monitor prime, community wrap-around program. As clinical director, he was required to have a (20 hour) case load throughout my employment period at Camelot. He also provided supervision to four undergraduate level treatment staff who worked directly with families and community agencies. As the licensed professional counselor, he assessed and diagnosed patients with developmental issues involving

family disturbance and behavioral adjustments including substance abuse, sexual acting out among teens and even younger children at various level of cognitive development. During his tenure, he acquired over two years of specialized experience in treating children, adolescents and families with problems relating to domestic violence, oppositional behavioral defiant disorder and other family system disruption, at times related to dysfunction within the home. He oversaw all aspects of a very demanding clinical program, including using community agency support, a home monitor prime (intensive in-home counseling), parent training services, and various continuum services and family reunification services whenever the patient/child was in state custody. In many of these settings, domestic violence and unbalanced parenting was a primary contributor to destabilization and a major focus of treatment. Treatment plans included interacting with juvenile court systems, local county governments, Department of Human Services, faculty and administrators of local school systems, major psychiatric hospitals and mental health centers to provide services to their at-risk youth population. Camelot Care Centers Inc. has a 30-year history of assessing and treating children and families with disruptive behavior.

From May 1994 to April 2008 Chaplain Randles served as the Staff Chaplain to the U. S. Army Reserve Center, Chattanooga, Tennessee as senior consultant to commander on issues related to soldier care in a battalion-sized element. Provided mental health and spiritual support to hundreds of soldiers and their families; coordinated family support functions to equip soldiers and families for mobilization for war, humanitarian relief, or other military missions. Included mandatory one weekend monthly drill and two weeks active-duty training annually; performed short tours of active duty and was mobilized to Kuwait with a Quartermaster Battalion to serve as Base Camp manager in 2004-2005. During the period as battalion chaplain, He dealt with a wide range of family issues and facilitated programs and interventions to strengthen

and support marriages, decrease alcohol related issues with soldiers, numerous family crises including grief issues.

From April 1988 to April 1996 Taz was Director of Residential Rehabilitation Program with Cleveland/Bradley County Services. As Director he was responsible for expanding, funding and maintaining a rehabilitation and treatment facility for over 130 mentally disabled adults and children. Served as senior administrator of community living facilities, which included placement of individuals in appropriate educational, training and living settings. Supervised in establishing Bradley County's first ICF/MR facility for mentally delayed children and adolescents. Administered educational batteries, intelligence tests and developmental scales, including MMPI-2, TAT, WAIS-R and Stanford-Binet II, under supervision of a licensed psychologist.

Taz graduated in 1988 from Lee University, Cleveland, Tennessee with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. In May 1991 he graduated with a Master of Divinity and Pastoral counseling degree from the Church of God Theological Seminary, Cleveland, Tennessee. He completed a Master of Education and Counseling Psychology from the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1994. He received the Doctorate of Ministry and Formational Counseling from Ashland University, Ashland, Ohio, in 2010.

Taz has been a Licensed Professional Counselor in Tennessee (LPC #00000590 since 1994). He performed his resident internship at Greenleaf Psychiatric Hospital, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. He received post-graduate residency supervision under the late Dr. Vijai Sharma, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist, who received his medical and social psychology training at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences from Bangalore, India, Advance Training in Clinical Psychology at the Tavistock Clinic, London, U.K., and has a doctoral degree from Lund University, Lund, Sweden. (Dr. Sharma studied under Anna Freud, among others).

From 1988 to 2088 Taz served as an Instructor of Psychology at Lee University. From 1999 to 2010 Taz took numerous professional development courses in both the civilian and military arenas, to include Medical Ethics and Clinical Interventions in Trauma, Combat Medic Field Training, Pastoral Crisis Intervention, Chaplain C-23 Career Course, Human Sexuality Course, ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) Living Works Education, Critical Incident Stress Management Course (Mitchell model).

Chaplain Randles's most relevant military chaplaincy and civilian counseling and pastoral experience includes the following: From 2015-2016: he was deployed to Southwest Asia Kuwait, Qatar and the Sinai Peninsula as Command Chaplain 1st Theater Sustainment Command; from 2011-2012 he was deployed to Afghanistan in Support of Joint Mission, Movement Control; from 2008-2011 he was in Maryland with the Wounded Warrior Brigade Chaplain-Pastor Memorial Chapel, Walter Reed Medical Center; from 2004 -2005 he was deployed in Support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III (Base Camp Chaplain); from 2003-2007 he worked as the Strengths Vocational Advisor, Lee University, Cleveland, Tennessee; from 1999-2011 he was the Assistant Director of Counseling Center, Lee University, Cleveland, Tennessee; from 1997-1998 he was the Interim Pastor, Durkee Road Church of God of Prophecy, Cleveland, Tennessee; from 1994-2006 he was the Army Reserve Chaplain, 7239 Medical Support Unit, Chattanooga, Tennessee; from 1996-1998 he served as the Assistant Pastor of the Eastview CoGoP, Cleveland, Tennessee.

Taz's community involvement and personal interests include the following: Bradley County Veterans Administration Grief Support Task Force, Contact Crisis Helpline; and reading, running, gardening, digital-photography, and computers.

Taz Randles is married to Monica Bailey Randles and have two fantastic children, and three lovely grand girls. Their children, Bethany and Lance

are the joys of their life. They have a dog named J.J. which Taz has grown quite fond of. They live outside of Cleveland, Tennessee in McDonald Tennessee.

RANDLES

PHOTOS





Chaplain (MAJ) Dale A. Code
US Army, Retired
1997 - 2013

Dale Allen Code was born in Wheeling, West Virginia and graduated from Andress High School in El Paso, Texas. Dale attended Tomlinson College, Cleveland, Tennessee, receiving the Associate of Arts degree in Religious Education. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical Education from Lee College and a Master of Divinity from the Church of God School of Theology both of Cleveland, Tennessee. His military education includes completion of Armor Reconnaissance Specialist (19D; Scout) Advanced Individualized Training, the Chaplain Officer Basic Course, the Chaplain Captain Career Course and Intermediate Level Education. He is an ordained Bishop in the Church of God of Prophecy of Cleveland, Tennessee.

Chaplain Code enlisted in the Army in June of 1975 and served in the Federal Republic of Germany as a Scout with 2nd Battalion, 33rd Armor of the 3rd Armored Division. He was honorably discharged from active

duty in 1979. He served as a Chaplain Candidate and graduated from Chaplain Officer Basic Course in August of 1989.

He returned to active duty at Fort Knox, Kentucky, as a Battalion Chaplain in June of 1997 and was assigned to 1st Armor Training Brigade, Fort Knox, Kentucky. He has also served as Regimental Chaplain, 2/2 Aviation Regiment, Camp Stanley, Korea; Squadron Chaplain, 3/16 Cavalry, Fort Knox, Kentucky; Task Force Chaplain, Joint Task Force Bravo, Soto Cano Airbase, Honduras; as a student at the Chaplain's Captain Career Course, Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

From February 2005 to September 2007 Dale was assigned to the 5/25 Field Artillery Battalion Chaplain at Fort Polk, Louisiana; 4th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division Brigade Chaplain at Fort Polk, Louisiana; Task Force Patriot Chaplain in Afghanistan; serving as both a battalion and brigade chaplain. For four (4) months during his Polk tour he deployed with his unit to Afghanistan and served as the Task Force chaplain. During this deployment Dale received his promotion to the rank of Major.

From July 2007 to July 2009 Dale and his family took an accompanied tour to the Republic of South Korea. Dale served as the 210th Field Artillery Brigade Chaplain at Camp Casey, Korea and the 2nd Infantry Deputy Division Chaplain at Camp Red Cloud, Korea, and 1st Brigade Combat Team. Penny and the girls lived in the Yongsan, Seoul community and he visited them weekends. Their son Daniel deployed to Iraq for a year with the Oklahoma National Guard. His fiancée Catherine remained in Springfield, Missouri, where he later married her upon his return from Iraq.

Upon his return to the United States Dale was assigned to Fort Drum, New York, as the First Brigade Chaplain, 10th Mountain Division, deploying with his unit to Afghanistan for a year from March 2010 to March 2011. Dale completed his twenty years of active service at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, serving as the Deputy Post Chaplain for

Operations and retiring from the US Army October 2013. Following his retirement Dale and Penny moved to Alexandria, Virginia, to work as Associate Pastor to the Alexandria CoGoP. Dale and Penny and their daughter Paula finally moved into this retirement home in Spotsylvania, Virginia.

His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (w/4 OLC), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Superior Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and Gulf War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Ribbon, and the Parachutist Badge.

Chaplain Code and his wife Penni have been married for forty (40) years and have three children: Daniel resides in Spotsylvania, Virginia and his daughters Pamela and Paula. Pamela graduated from Nyak College, New York, in 2015, married and lives in Lexington, Kentucky. Paula lives at home with her parents where she enjoys reading, attending movies and visiting pet stores.

CODE PHOTOS





Chaplain (CPT) Aliner J. Harris
US Army Chaplain
2004-2011

Aliner J, Harris is a native of La Croix Saint Joseph, Port-de-Paix, Haiti. He was ordained as a Pastor of the Independence Church of God of Miami Florida in 1998. Chaplain Harris served as a Youth Pastor of Revelation's Church of God from 1985 through 1990. Reverend Harris has served as an Associate Pastor from 1990 through 1998. Aliner served as Church of God's Pastor from 1999 through 2006. Chaplain Aliner J Harris had served 18 years as a civilian pastor before coming on active duty in 2004. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from Trinity International University in Miami Florida.

Chaplain Aliner J Harris attended the Church of God Theological Seminary, Cleveland Tennessee where he was awarded a Master of Divinity degree in 2002. Chaplain Harris attended the United States Army Chaplain Center School 2004.

Chaplain Aliner J Harris has completed six (6) Units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE): two units Clinical pastoral education at Erlanger Health System Chattanooga, Tennessee and four (4) units of Clinical Pastoral Education at Jackson Memorial Hospital Miami, FL. CPE is Chaplain Harris's primary method of training hospital and hospice chaplains and spiritual care providers to the patients and family members.

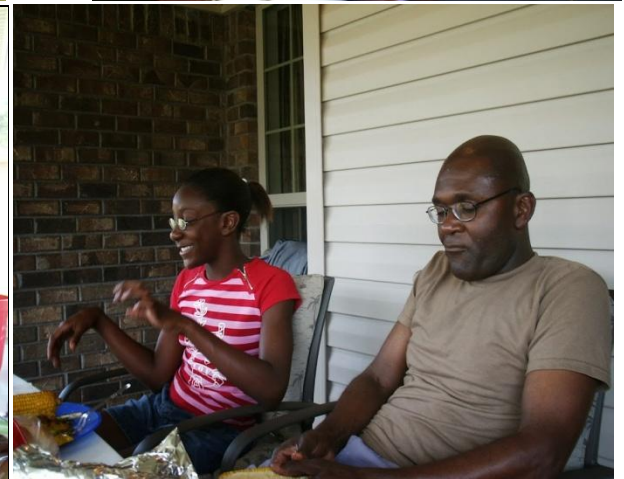
His first, and previous assignment are as follows: Headquarters, 3d Infantry Division and Fort Stewart, Georgia, 26 Forward Support Battalion Fort Stewart GA, Headquarters, United States Army Training Center and Fort Jackson 2-6 Infantry Battalion Fort Jackson, SC. 1st Infantry Division, 18 Infantry Battalion, Schweinfurt Germany, United States Army Air Borne Division Vicenza Italy, United Army 1st Battalion 2, Infantry Regiment Fort Benning, Georgia. Chaplain Harris's assignment to the United States Department of Justice from September 27, 2013, through August 3, 2016.

Chaplain Harris is serving as a professional healthcare chaplain, with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Chaplain Harris is currently a Clinical Chaplain for the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Huntington, West Virginia.

His awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Liberation of Iraqi Freedom Medal with three battle stars, Overseas service ribbon, Humanitarian Service Medal, Parachute badge.

Chaplain Harris married for 29 years to his sweetheart, Bertha. They have five children: Yuchabel, Rachel, Bethia, Jarib, and Priestla.

HARRIS PHOTOS





Chaplain (MAJ) Abram R. Staten
US Army
2015 - 2022

Abram R. Staten was born on 10 March 1980. He graduated from South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, South Carolina, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Performance with a minor in Music Education. Chaplain Staten recently received a Masters of Entertainment Business from Full Sail University (2015), a Master of Divinity degree from Liberty University (2012) and obtained his Masters Business Administration at the University of Phoenix. While attending South Carolina State University he received a commission as an officer with the South Carolina Army National Guard. He now serves on active duty as an US Army Chaplain at Fort Lewis, Washington. Chaplain Staten is also the director and organizer of All 4 Christ, an inspirational group of young adults formed in 2001 who recently released a second recording album and music video.

His present and past military assignments are as follows: 2-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team (Present): 6th Group, Criminal Investigative Division(21-22): 3rd Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group Airborne (20-21):1st Battalion, 41st Field Arterially, Fort Stewart (18-20); Battalion Chaplain, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Battalion, JBLM, Washington, (15-18); Company Commander/ REGT 2 BN (CS/CSS) FT Jackson South Carolina (13-15); Chaplain Candidate/ 4th 118th Infantry Battalion, Mullins South Carolina (11-12); Signal Officer/ 178th Engineer

Battalion, Rock Hill South Carolina (09-11); Operation Officer Charlotte MEPS, Charlotte North Carolina (08-11); Company Executive Officer, 741st Quarter Master Company, Allendale, South Carolina(08-09); Platoon Leader, 111th Signal Company, Charleston, South Carolina (06-07); Gold Bar Recruiter South Carolina State University (06-07); Platoon Leader, 114th Signal Company, Camden, South Carolina(05-06); Transportation, Orangeburg, South Carolina (01-05)

Chaplain Staten's military education includes the Signal Officer Basic Course, Pre-Command Course, Chaplain Officer Basic, Quartermaster Captain Career Course, Chaplain Captain Career Course phase 1, and Master Resilience Trainer (MRT) Level 1. Suicide Intervention Trainer, Clinic Pastor Education (CPE), Combat Medical Ministry (CMM)

Personal Information

Rank: MAJ

Grade/MOS: O4 / 56A00

Component: ACTIVE ARMY

Current Job Title: BRIGADE CHAPLAIN

Organization: 2-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 7ID

Professional Accomplishments

Assignment History

07 Aug 2006 EXECUTIVE OFFICER/PLT LDR

01 Oct 2009 OPERATIONS OFFICER/SIGNAL OFFICER

14 Jun 2011 CHAPLAIN CANDIDATE

27 Oct 2013 PLT LEADER OC/T

04 May 2013 COMPANY COMMANDER

18 Feb 2015 BATTALION CHAPLAIN
 27 Dec 2017 BATTALION CHAPLAIN
 04 Jan 2018 BATTALION CHAPLAIN
 21 OCT 2021 GROUP CHAPLAIN
 01 AUG 2022 BRIGADE CHAPLAIN

<u>Military Schools Attended</u>	<u>Year Completed</u>
ROTC/South Carolina State University	2005
BOLC/PHASE II	2007
Signal Corp. School, Off. Basic, Ft. Gordon, GA	2007
Pre-Command Course, SCARNG, Leesburg, SC	2009
CHBOLC, Ft Jackson SC	2012
CHCCC, Ft Jackson Phase 1, SC	2013
CCC Quartermaster, Ft Lee VA	2014
Master Resilience Trainer (MRT) Level 1, Ft Jackson, SC	2015
Suicide Prevention Training	2015
Clinical Pastor Education	2016
Combat Medical Ministry	2017

<u>Civilian Education</u>	<u>Year Completed</u>
Fairfield Central HS, South Carolina	1998
South Carolina State University BA Music Performance	2005

University Of Phoenix MBA	2009
Liberty University MDIV	2013
Full Sail University Master Entertainment Business	2015

U.S. Decorations/Badges

Meritorious Service Medal	3
Army Commendation Medal	3
Joint Service Achievement Medal	1
Army Achievement Medal	4
Army Service Ribbon	1
Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal	4
National Defense Service Medal	1
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal	1
Army Commendation Medal	1
Korea Defense Service Medal	1
Outstanding Volunteer Medal	1
Armed Forces Reserve Medal	1
Army Service Ribbon	1
Over Seas Ribbon	1
M-16 Riffle (EXP)	1

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF APPOINTMENTS

Second Lieutenant SCARNG	2005
First Lieutenant SCARNG	2007
Captain SCARNG	2010
Captain ARMY Reserve	2013
Captain ACTIVE DUTY	2015
Major ACTIVE DUTY (MERIT BASED)	2021

CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD OF DUTY ASSIGNMENTS	FROM	TO
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SCARNG SMP, Transportation, Orangeburg, SC	APR 2001	SEP 2004
Platoon Leader, 114th SC, Camden, SC	OCT2006	APR 2007

ACTIVE DUTY

Gold Bar Recruiter, South Carolina State University	DEC 2006	APR 2007
Student, Signal Officer Basic Crs, Fort Gordon, GA	APR 2007	AUG 2007

SCARNG

Platoon Leader, 111 TH SC, Charleston, SC	AUG 2007	AUG 2009
Quarter Master /XO, 741 st , Allendale, SC	AUG 2004	NOV 2009
ADSW, Charlotte MEPS, Charlotte NC	DEC 2008	JAN 2011
Signal Officer/ 178 th EN BN, Rock Hill SC	DEC 2009	DEC 2010
Chaplain Candidate/ 1222nd EN BN, Edgefield SC	JAN 2011	NOV 2012
Chaplain Candidate/ 4th 118th IN BN, Mullins SC	DEC 2012	SEP 2013
Platoon Leader/ REGT 2 BN (CS/CSS) FT Jackson SC	OCT 2013	APR 2014
Company Commander/ REGT 2 BN) (CS/CSS) FT Jackson SC	MAY 2014	FEB 2015

ACTIVE DUTY

Battalion Chaplain, 1 st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Battalion, Ft. Lewis, WA	FEB 2015	JAN 2018
Battalion Chaplain, 1 st Battalion, 41 st Field Artillery, Ft. Stewart, GA	JAN 2018	JUL 2020
Battalion Chaplain, 3 rd BN, 1 st Special Forces Group Airborne, Ft. Lewis, WA	JUL 2020	OCT 2021
Group Chaplain, 6 th Group CID Ft. Lewis, WA	OCT 2021	AUG 2022

Brigade Chaplain, 2-2 SBCT
JBLM, WA

AUG 2022

JUL 2023

Student Resident ILE,
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

JUL 2023

JUL 2024

Deployments

South Korea 2018

Philippines 2017

South Korea 2017

Thailand 2017

STATEN PHOTOS





Chaplain (CPT) Christina S. Douglas
US Army Reserve
2017 – 2022

Christina Douglas was born in Cleveland, Ohio on 5 June 1990. She grew up with her mother, Vontayne Smith and two younger brothers. Her mother adopted Christina and her siblings at a young age and raised them in a Christ-centered home full of love.

On 9 December 2011, Christina married her college sweetheart, Kevoy Douglas of Clarendon, Jamaica. The couple recently celebrated 10 years of marriage. They have one son, Kenneth, who is a smart and energetic 7-year-old with a growing love for God and others. They currently reside in Virginia and are expecting their second child to be born in September 2022.

Christina grew up as a pastor's kid as both her grandmother and mother were pastors and active in ministry. She was raised in the Pentecostal faith tradition and attended Glad Tidings Holiness Tabernacle with Pastor Shirley Miller, her grandmother and Assistant Pastor Vontayne Smith, her mother. Christina was involved in ministry from a young age, traveling around the greater Cleveland area with the church praise and worship dance team. After she was married, she joined the church organization her husband grew up in, Church of God of Prophecy. She

became a member in 2013 and would later become an ordained minister in 2016. She is also endorsed by CoGoP for both military (2014) and healthcare (2020) chaplaincy. Over the years Christina has held many different roles in her local church to include praise dance team leader, children and youth Sunday school teacher and youth leader. Currently she is serving as the Youth Pastor at Family Life Ministries CoGoP, Lynchburg, Virginia (June 2016 – present).

After graduating from Garfield Heights High School, Christina attended the University of Charleston on an academic and athletic scholarship. During her sophomore year, Christina joined the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program at her college. In May 2012 she received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting, Finance and Business Administration from the University of Charleston, West Virginia. Upon graduation, she also commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve. Chaplain Douglas continued her academic career and earned her Master of Divinity in 2015, from Liberty University Baptist Theological Seminary located in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Christina completed 5 units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) and developed a passion for healthcare chaplaincy. In March 2021 Christina became a Board-Certified Chaplain through the Association of Professional Chaplains. She is now serving as a hospital chaplain with Centra Health (2020 – present).

Chaplain Douglas served as a Chaplain Candidate (56X) for Headquarters, 3rd Brigade, 98th Division (IT), Salem, Virginia. During her 3 years as a candidate, she gained excellent experience as she led chapel services, traveled to the different companies under the 3rd BDE to provide spiritual support, assisted with mandatory trainings, briefed commanders, and cared for Soldiers and their Families. She was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in November 2013. Christina completed the Combat Medical Ministry Course at Fort Sam Houston, Texas in July

2015 and completed the Chaplains Officer Basic Course at Fort Jackson, South Carolina in April 2016. She accessioned as a Chaplain (56A) in February 2017. Christina has served as the Battalion Chaplain for the 437th Civil Affairs Battalion, Fort Story, Virginia and the 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion, McLeansville, North Carolina. Chaplain Douglas is currently assigned to 354th Civil Affairs Brigade, White Plains, Maryland where she is serving as the Brigade Chaplain.

Her military awards include the Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), National Defense Service Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon.

DOUGLAS PHOTOS





Chaplain, 1st Lt. Brian K. Graves,
US Air Force, Tennessee Air National Guard
2020 - 2022

Brian Keith Graves was born 26 April 1982 to parents Keith Graves and Jackie Clark in Westmoreland, Tennessee. Brian has five siblings: Dustin Simons of Westmoreland, Tennessee, Kacie Sizemore of Westmoreland, Tennessee, Nehemiah Clark of Westmoreland, Tennessee, Kody Graves of Westmoreland, Tennessee, and Keri Brown of Portland, Tennessee. Brian lived in Tennessee during his childhood. June 17, 2006 Brian married Wendy Beth Long of Adolphus, Kentucky. Their first child, a girl, Olivia Sage Graves, was born June 19, 2009. The second child, a son, Eli Knox Graves was born June 13, 2010. The third child, a son, Isaac Boone Graves was born November 7, 2018.

At age of twenty-five Brian joined Roberts Tabernacle CoGoP in Westmoreland, Tennessee in 2007. Brian accepted his call to preach at the age of nineteen at a youth camp in Kentucky. Bishop Tim McCaleb set him forth as a minister in CoGoP in 2012. State Overseer of Tennessee, Bishop Dr. E.C. McKinley ordained and licensed him as a minister of the CoGoP in 2013. On August 29, 2019 Bishop Dr. E.C.

McKinley of Tennessee appointed him and his wife as pastor of Abundant Grace Ministries CoGoP in Collierville, Tennessee, where he still serves as pastor. Brian has been in the Air Force since November 19, 2002 as an enlisted Airman where he made it to the rank of E-6 (Technical Sergeant). He served in several different jobs over those several years of service. On March 17, 2017 Brian transitioned to the officer ranks where he took the oath of office as a US Air Force (Air Force Reserve) Chaplain Candidate and then was reappointed November 4, 2020 as a US Air Force (Air National Guard) Chaplain with the 164th Air Mobility Wing in Memphis, TN, where he is still serving.

Chaplain, 1st Lt Brian Graves is assigned to the Office of the Wing Chaplain, 164th Airlift Wing. As a traditional Guardsman, he ensures the protection of the constitutional right of the free exercise of religion by providing spiritual care, moral and ethical advisement, and confidential counseling to approximately 1,000 service members, and 300 civil service and civilian employees. He serves those assigned to one of the Air National Guard's five strategic airlift wings. The 164th provides rapid global mobility in C-17 aircraft supporting National Security Objectives. He advises leaders at all levels regarding issues related to ethics, morale, religious accommodation, and mental and spiritual readiness.

Chaplain Graves enlisted as an active-duty F-16 Crew Chief in November 2002. He transferred to the Tennessee Air National Guard (ANG) in November 2004. While in the ANG he served as a Heavy Equipment Operator, a Material Management Craftsman, and a Geospatial Intelligence Analyst. Following these experiences, he entered the Air Force Reserve in March 2017 as a Chaplain Candidate. Upon completing training in that capacity, he returned to the ANG as a Chaplain in November 2020. Prior to his current position Chaplain Graves entered into the Air Force Reserve as a Chaplain Candidate in March of 2017. After finishing his Chaplain Candidate training in November 2020, he transferred to the Tennessee Air National Guard.

Chaplain Graves is endorsed through the Church of God of Prophecy. He is the Senior Pastor at Abundant Grace Ministries in Collierville, Tennessee.

EDUCATION

2002	F-16 Assistant Dedicated Crew Chief Course, Shepherd AFB, Texas
2005	Pavement & Construction Apprentice Course, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri
2008	Airman Leadership School, Community College of the Air Force, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
2008	Material Management Craftsman Course, Lackland AFB, Texas
2012	Geospatial Intelligence Analyst Course, Good fellow AFB, Texas
2014	Associate Degree, Criminal Justice, Volunteer State Community College, Gallatin, Tennessee
2014	Associate Degree, Construction Technology, Community College of the Air Force, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
2015	Associate Degree, Intelligence Analysis, Community College of the Air Force, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
2016	Bachelor of Science, Ministry Leadership, Lee University, Cleveland, Tennessee
2020	Master of Divinity, Pentecostal Theological Seminary, Cleveland, Tennessee

ASSIGNMENTS

November 2002 – January 2003, Basic Training, 331st Training Squadron, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

January 2003 – July 2003, Student, F-16 Crew Chief Training, 362d Training Squadron, Sheppard AFB, Texas

August 2003 – November 2004, F-16 Crew Chief, 57th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Nellis AFB, Nevada

November 2004 – April 2008, Pavement & Construction Apprentice, 118th Civil Engineering Group (CEG) Squadron, Berry Field, Tennessee

(March 2006 – May 2006, Pavement & Construction Apprentice, 36th Mission Support Group, Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory)

(September 2007 – January 2008, Pavement & Construction Apprentice, 447th Air Expeditionary Group, Sather Air Base, Iraq)

April 2008- January 2012, Material Management Craftsman, 118th CEG Squadron, Berry Field, Tennessee

(March 2010 – May 2010, Material Management Craftsman, US Southern Command Joint Task Force, Port-au-Prince, Haiti)

January 2012 – July 2016, Geospatial Intelligence Analyst, 118th CEG Squadron, Berry Field, Tennessee

July 2016 – March 2017, Operations Management Craftsman, 118th CEG Squadron, Berry Field, Tennessee

March 2017 – November 2020, Chaplain Candidate, Detachment 5 Rio, Buckley AFB, Colorado

November 2020 – Present, Chaplain, 164th Headquarters Squadron, Memphis, Tennessee

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Air Force Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal with 5 oak leaf clusters

Army Achievement Medal

Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with 4 oak leaf clusters

National Defense Service Medal

Iraq Campaign Medal with bronze star

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Armed Forces Service Medal

Humanitarian Service Medal

Armed Forces Reserve Medal with bronze hour glass

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Airman Basic	November 19, 2002
Airman	May 19, 2003
Airman First Class	March 19, 2004
Senior Airman	March 1, 2006
Staff Sergeant	July 11, 2007
Technical Sergeant	June 1, 2015
Second Lieutenant	March 24, 2017
First Lieutenant	November 5, 2019

GRAVES PHOTOS





1Lt Jermaine D. Livingston
US Air Force Chaplain Candidate
2017 – 2021

Jermaine Dionte Livingston was born on 6 July 1993 the son of Christopher Lee Tucker and Renada Livingston in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He excelled at sports in high school and received a scholarship to play college football at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Oklahoma. He graduated from Oklahoma Baptist in 2016 with a Fine Arts degree in Mass Communications.

Jermaine was a minister in training at his local home church the Oklahoma City Family Church in the Springfield area of Oklahoma County with Jaime Pena his pastor and mentor. He worked in public relations through church ministry and received exclusive training in telecommunications (news or production) as well as visual communications (graphic design, production design, photography, video, etc.). His skills also include experience in Church Planting where Jermaine trained under the tutelage of Dr. Bruce Carlton, Professor of Cross-Cultural Ministry, Oklahoma Baptist University.

In September 2016 Jermaine enrolled in the Pentecostal Theological Seminary, Cleveland, Tennessee. He was immediately endorsed by the CoGoP Ecclesiastical Endorser, Dr. Douglas R. Stephenson, as an Air Force Chaplain Candidate. Jermaine was commissioned in December 2016 as a Air Force Chaplain Candidate and graduated from the Air Force Commissioned Officers Training School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Alabama in June 2018. During the summers of his seminary training Jermaine trained on active Air Force bases as an Air Force Chaplain Candidate. One of these training events was conducted in Europe at the Moron Air Force Base, Spain. He received such positive feedback that the active duty chaplain took personal leave and left the chaplaincy program under Jermaine's leadership.

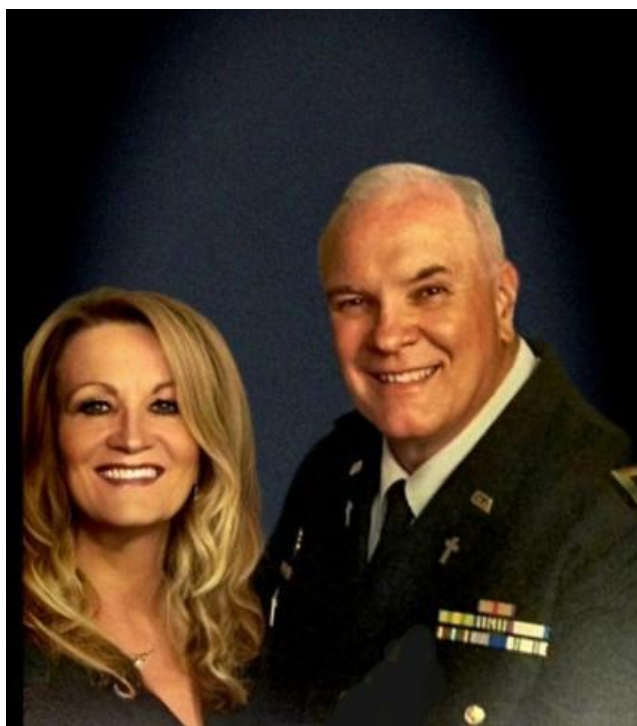
Jermaine received his ministerial ordination on 29 March 2017 under the leadership of Bishop Wayne Pense, Heartland America Regional Overseer, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. During his time at seminary Jermaine trained under the tutelage of Reverend Darren Schalk at Keith Street Ministries CoGoP and under Bishop Kirk Rising at the Peerless Road CoGoP both located in Cleveland, Tennessee

In May 2019 Jermaine received the Master of Divinity degree from the Pentecostal Theological Seminary, Cleveland, Tennessee. Following graduation from seminary Jermaine moved back to Oklahoma to pursue clinical training in pastoral care. Reverend Livingston has completed four (4) units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at the Oklahoma VA Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Jermaine has worked in two hospitals using his training in CPE: one in Huntington, West Virginia and the other in Miramar Beach, Florida.

Since the US Air Force Reserve Chaplain has released Jermaine from the Air Force Chaplain Candidate program, he is actively pursuing active duty with the US Navy.

LIVINGSTON PHOTOS





Chaplain (LTC) Roger D. Lanter
Georgia State Defense Force
2005 - 2012

Roger D. Lanter was born 26 November 1954 in Detroit, Michigan, the son of Reverend Charles C. and Ann Lanter. Roger grew up in a pastor's home serving in the following locations: Tucson, Arizona, Kaneohe, Hawaii, Des Moines, Iowa, Bybee and Morristown, Tennessee. He graduated from Cocke County High School, Newport, Tennessee and married Teresa Thompson from Rossville, Georgia in 1973. They had two boys named Justin and Clinton. Roger was honorably discharged from the United States Marine Corps in 1976 as a Private First Class. Soon after leaving the USMC he was saved and God began to call him into his work and he accepted his call into the ministry in 1979.

After serving three (3) years as a Sales Representative and Sales Manager with United Van Lines in Bismarck, North Dakota Roger and Teresa began pastoring churches with the Church of God of Prophecy.

While living in Phoenix, Arizona Roger went to work with Data Phase Corporation from 1985 to 1990. He was a consultant on computer, hardware purchasing; networking and training for business software responsible for large Fortune 500 corporations and executive offices.

From February 1979 until December 2004 Roger served the Church of God of Prophecy as Senior Pastor at several churches. He was Associate Pastor for Aurora, Colorado and as state evangelist for the state of Colorado, State Auxiliary Leader for Arizona and Nevada, District Overseer in Arizona. Roger and Theresa served in the following locations: Senior Pastor at Frasier Road CoGoP, Greensboro, North Carolina. They also served as pastors in Lakeland, Florida; Trion, Dalton, Canton, and Cartersville, Georgia.

Roger worked a full time job from 30 March 2002 until 2013 at Phoenix Air Department, Cartersville, Georgia as a Defense Contractor while serving as a Georgia Defense Force Chaplain.. In thus secular position he began by fueling airplanes; in the shipping department sending and receiving aircraft parts; and in the Gulfstream parts department maintaining and dispensing parts.

Chaplain Lanter's education shows he earned his Bachelor of Theology; Master of Theology and his Master of Divinity degrees from Andersonville Baptist Theological Seminary, Camilla, Georgia,

Roger served full time as pastor while performing Chaplain Duty once a month under contract with the United States Coast Guard. He was recommended by the US Coast Guards Navy Chaplain to serve in the Georgia Department of Defense GSDF Division. He choose to leave his full time senior pastor position at the end of 2004 and chose to serve as a military chaplain. He met with former US Army Chaplain (LTC) Doug Stephenson Ret. for advice and the Ecclesiastical Endorsement needed to serve in the military chaplaincy. He was interviewed by the Command Chaplain then faced the Board and was accepted into the program. In 2005 he volunteered to serve one weekend a month and attend Annual

Training at Fort Stewart Army Base each year in the Georgia Department of Defense (GSDF) military chaplaincy.

One year later he graduated from Chaplain Officer Basic Course and then received a direct commission to the rank of (1LT) and was awarded his chaplain Cross. He was assigned to 1st Brigade 1st Battalion HQ as staff chaplain at the Army National Guard Armory GSDF in Rome Georgia. Roger was placed on state active duty eight times serving with the 48th Combat Unit in Macon Georgia and the 1-108th in Calhoun Georgia and was TDY with the 165th Air Wing near Savannah Georgia. He continued his training by attending another year of Chaplain Advanced Officer Course. He was later promoted to the rank of Captain and was promoted to the rank of Major in January of 2010 after becoming the Joint Forces HQ Division Command Chaplain GSDF and Liaison Officer for the Command General. He concluded his chaplaincy with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and retired on Sunday 3 June 2012 and was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, He also received the Governors "A Commendation" at his retirement ceremony.

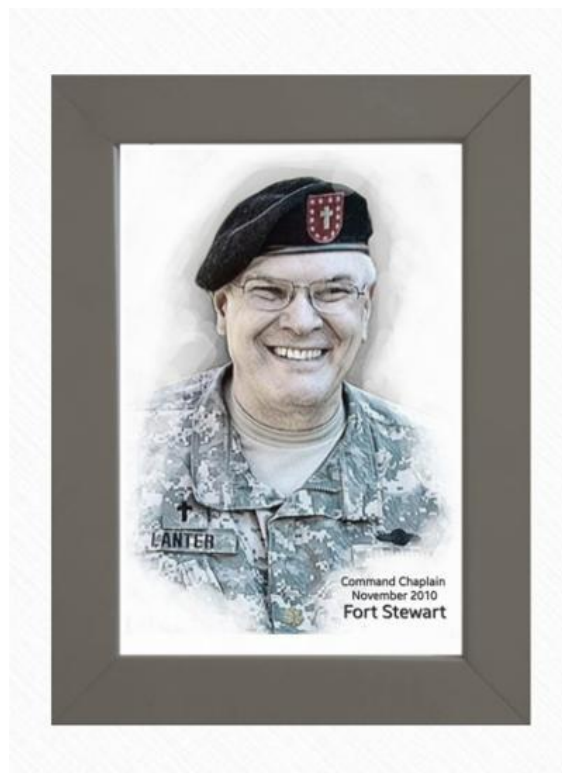
On 3 June 2012 Roger retired from the Georgia Department of Defense as Command Chaplain GSDF Division Headquarters with the rank Lieutenant Colonel working for the Command General and at the Joint Forces HQ Chaplain Office as the Command Generals Liaison Officer. Serving with the Army and Air National Guard at the Clay National Guard Center in Marietta Georgia.

Here is a summation of his chaplaincy duties with the Georgia Defense Force from November 2000 to June 2012: Served as Division HQ Command Chaplain State Military Defense Department / Joint Forces Headquarters Liaison. Served on staff of Division Command General and State JFHQ Chaplain Corps. Responsible for Brigade, Battalion and Company (UMT) Chaplain's and Chaplain Assistants. Conducted Advanced Training and kept promotion records for Review by State Board. Recommend achieved Ribbons, Awards and Medals. Conducted

Chapel Services and Field Duty Services. Instruction and Counseling at Annual Training. Provided Reports to Command Staff and was responsible for Chaplain Corps Budgets. Performed Weddings and military funerals. Prior duty before Command Chaplain was as Battalion HQ Chaplain, HHC Chaplain, State Active Duty 48th IBCT Combat Team and 48th Armored. Served in the United States Marine Corps active duty enlisted was Honorably Discharged 1976 early due to a medical issue at the time as E-2 PFC. Served US Coast Guard 7th District MOA Chaplain HQ Charleston SC serving Atlanta Region.

After retiring from the Georgia Defense Force Chaplaincy Roger served as Pastor of the Parkview Baptist Church, Rome, Georgia from September 2013 to August 2018. Since then Roger has been enjoying retirement and spends his time with his wife Theresa and his grandchildren.

LANTER PHOTOS





Sergeant Major (Retired) Steve Wilson
US Army Chaplain Corps Sergeant Major
1972 - 2003

Steve Wilson currently serves as the Business Services Consultant for Florida's Pasco Hernando Workforce Board. He and his team are committed to assist in developing and improving a quality workforce that meets the varied needs of businesses and employers located in Pasco and Hernando counties.

Prior to moving back to his home state of Florida in February 2003 after retirement, Steve served in the U.S. Army for 30+ years with his last assignment being the Army Chief of Chaplains Sergeant Major at the Pentagon, Washington D.C. He was selected by Army Chief of Chaplains to serve as the Chaplain Corps Sergeant Major from July 1999 to February 2003. Steve is a survivor of the 9-11 terrorist attack at the Pentagon on 9-11-2001.

Sergeant Major Wilson, a native of Dade City, Florida, first entered the Army in 1972 and completed his basic training at Fort Jackson, South

Carolina and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Dix, New Jersey and the Chaplain School at Fort Hamilton, New York.

During his military career, Sergeant Major Wilson has had a variety of Chaplain Assistant assignments. They include the 36th Combat Engineer Brigade, Fort Benning, GA (73-75). While assigned to Fort Benning, Georgia, Steve worked closely with the local CoGoP Pastor Dewey Lolley acting as liaison with the military on the large Army post. After Steve's three-year tour of the Army, he returned to Florida and began studies at Southeastern Bible College in Lakeland, Florida for a short time.

He made a decision to return back to the Army in February 1976, serving as a Chaplain Assistant at the 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, CO (76-78) and 36th Signal Battalion, Taegu, Korea (78-79). Steve also served as an Army Recruiter with the Nashville District Recruiting Command at Morristown, Tennessee in 1979.

He returned as a Chaplain Assistant with the 35th Signal Brigade, 1st Corps Support Command & Office Manager at the XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg Chaplain's Office, Fort Bragg, NC (79-82). From there, Steve was reassigned as a Chaplain Assistant at US Army Recruiting Command, Fort Sheridan, IL (82-83); US Army Transportation Corps, Fort Eustis, VA (83-85); Berlin Brigade, Berlin, Germany (85-88); and 8th Infantry Division, Bad Kreuznach, Germany (88-91). While assigned to the Berlin Brigade Steve helped coordinate the Freedom Retreat that Chaplain (LTC) Douglas R. Stephenson and Chaplain (MAJ) Jerry Moates conducted over the Fourth (4th) of July 1986 in the military community of the Berlin Brigade.

Steve served in Combat Developments and as the 1SG at U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, Fort Monmouth, NJ (91-94); While serving as the 1SG at the Chaplain School, Steve was selected by the Army Chief of Chaplains (MG Matt Zimmerman) to serve as the DA Proponent NCO to the Chief of Chaplains for Chaplain Assistant Career

Field, Chief of Chaplains Office, Pentagon, Washington DC (94-97). After his assignment in Washington DC, Steve served as the Command Chaplain SGM for the US Army Pacific, Fort Shafter, HI (97-99);

While in Hawaii, Steve was selected by the US Army Chief of Chaplains (MG G.T. Gunhus) to serve as the Army's Chief of Chaplains Sergeant Major at the Chief of Chaplains Office, Pentagon, Washington DC. Upon completion of Steve's 30+ years of service, serving in his last assignment as the Chaplain Corps Sergeant Major to the Chief of Chaplains, he retired and returned to his home state of Florida where he served as Government Operations Consultant at Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity for 11 ½ years, retiring as a state employee in 2015. Upon retiring as a State employee, Steve started work the day after his retirement from the State of Florida, serving as the Business Services Consultant for Florida's Pasco Hernando Workforce Board from 2015 to present.

Steve is a graduate of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, First Sergeant Course and the US Army Recruiting and Career Counselor School. He holds other military certifications in the areas of Noncommissioned Officer Education System. Steve holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia. He is a commissioned Kentucky Colonel by the Governor of Kentucky; and is a Certified Green Belt in Lean Six Sigma and a Certified Florida Workforce Professional (Level 3).

In 2012, The Army Chief of Chaplains (MG Don Rutherford) appointed Steve, by order of the Secretary of the Army, to serve as the Honorary Sergeant Major of the Chaplain Corps Regiment. Steve has faithfully served in that position for the past 10 years and currently still serves in the position, starting his 11th year this past March 2022!

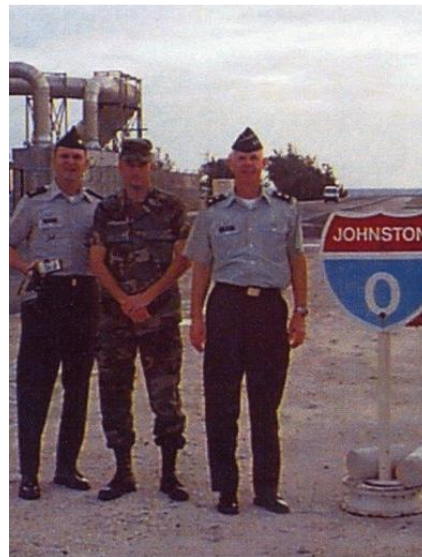
Steve also serves in the local community, with the Kiwanis Florida District. He has served as President of the Kiwanis Club of Weeki Wachee and President of the Adventure Coast Kiwanis Club. Recently,

Steve was elected to serve as Kiwanis Florida District Lieutenant Governor for program year 2022-2023.

While serving in the Army, Steve was awarded two Legion of Merit Medals, four Meritorious Service Medals, four Army Commendation Medals, the Army of Occupation Medal, the Army Staff Identification Badge and other military medals, ribbons, and badges.

He and his lovely wife, De, reside in Spring Hill, Florida. They have two sons that serve in the military. Their oldest son, Bo is serving as a Senior Noncommissioned Officer in the U.S. Air Force, Korea; and their younger son, Billy, is serving as a Senior Officer in the US Navy, Hawaii. They miss their Grandson, Chris, and their Granddaughter, Freyja and talk with them as much as they can by video and phone!

WILSON PHOTOS





Master Sergeant Montie G. Elston
US Army Retired
1970 - 2000

Montie Gene Elston was born on 19 June 1949, in Olivehurst, California, the son of Eunice and Logan Elston. He married Barbara June Hodges in 1968 in Olivehurst, California. Following graduation from high school Montie followed in his father's footsteps and joined the US Army. His father Logan served in the US Marine Corps as a Corporal. He and his wife Barbara had a son Brian Douglas while they were stationed at Fort Hood, Texas.

Montie's follow on assignment from Ft. Hood was Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he began working as a US Army Chaplain Assistant. Chaplain Doug Stephenson our CoGoP Military Chaplain who at the time was serving as the 5th Special Forces Group Chaplain, Fort Bragg, North Carolina recruited Montie to become his group chaplain assistant. Following completion of jump school Montie was assigned to 5th Special Forces Group and began working out of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel at Fort Bragg. Sergeant Elston and Chaplain Stephenson made quite the chaplaincy unit ministry team. Together working with Sergeant Paul Reinhardt from 5th Group, they lead barracks Bible studies, group spiritual retreats and even a CoGoP Military Retreat hosted at JFK Chapel.

When Montie departed Bragg he changed his Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) to Army Recruiter. Reaching the rank of Master Sergeant Montie served in this capacity in California and Virginia until he retired from the US Army in 2000 and returned home to Olivehurst, California to care for his aging parents.

He has three siblings: Juanita, Linda Randow who lives in Rupert, Idaho and Brenda Reinhold who lives in Langen, Germany.



Airman Kenneth Ted Cooper
United States Air Force
Chaplain Services Specialist
1965 - 1969

Ted Cooper was born to Veldee and Gladys Cooper on 28 November 1943 in Piedmont, South Carolina. He was raised in a very strict Church of God of Prophecy home with 2 older siblings and 3 younger siblings. Ted graduated from Piedmont High School and then attended Emmanuel College in Franklin Springs, Georgia where he graduated in 1965.

During the summer months of college he represented Emmanuel in different activities. In 1963 he shared Christ in the streets to the lost with Teen Challenge in New York City and Boston. In the summer of 1964, he was in a group of 6 students representing Emmanuel College at the Oral Roberts' University in Tulsa, Oklahoma. By the summer of 1965, Ted attended the Berea Bible College in McAllen, Texas. He served as a student missionary in Mexico.

During the summer of 1965, Ted was drafted into the United States Army. However, he decided to join the United States Air Force in October 1965 and entered the Air Force as a Chaplain Services Specialist, which was simply a Chaplain's Assistant. While serving in

that capacity, he was the secretary to the chaplain. He would set up for all the church services, and managed the chapel funds as the bookkeeper.

His first duty assignment was Beale Air Force Base in Northern California. This is where he met his friend, Norman Wojcik, who also served as a chaplain's assistant at Beale AFB, California.

Bishop Elwood Matthews contacted Bishop C. T. Davidson, the Overseer in California, to let him know that Ted was in the state. He wanted someone in the state to reach out to this South Carolina Church of God of Prophecy boy. Bishop Davidson opened up many doors for him to speak at churches in the state of California where he met many friends including his wife, Terry Ballard, from the El Sobrante church.

In the fall of 1967, he was assigned to Goose Bay Air Force Base in Labrador for 15 months. In 1968, Ted returned to California just long enough to marry his wife, Terry Ballard. They returned to Goose Bay and lived off base. While there we met other Pentecostal service men and attended the Happy Valley Pentecostal Church. Goose Bay, Labrador is where I finished his Air Force career.

Ted started another career after returning home to South Carolina with Nabisco for 28 years. He went back to school and got a marketing and business management degree.

He and his wife, Terry, have three children. Their oldest daughter, Renee, married Derek Palmer from the Collingwood, Ontario Canada church where they are active members. They have four children. Their second daughter, Rhonda Cooper is a Middle School Math Teacher. She is active in the music at the Seneca CoGoP. Their only son, Roddy, married Laura Seyller. They have 6 children. Roddy is active in the Seneca church leading the local Trail Life USA Troop as the Trailmaster.

In March 1997, Ted retired from Nabisco. He had a massive heart attack that October and open-heart surgery in December. By October 1998, he was ready to do something for the Lord. His friend, Nick Kladitis, from Canada invited him to go on a trip to Peru to visit some of our churches. This trip to Peru resulted in 50 mission trips between 1998 and 2019.

During these 50 trips Ted has led CoGoP teams from multiple states. Two of my constant traveling companions through the years have been Bishop Dr. Ken Baker of South Carolina and the late Bishop Curtis Sutton from Alabama.

Since February 2020 Bishop Dr. Ken Baker and Ted are still holding tickets for their next trip to Peru which has been hindered by COVID. However, they are continuing to raise support for ministers, feeding children, and overseeing construction on CoGoP churches, the CoGoP Camp in Piura in Northern Peru and the Linda Baker School in Mi, Peru.

Ted has been an active member of the Church of God of Prophecy for 62 years. On August 14, 1960 he went to his knees and asked Jesus into his heart. That night the Lord chose him to follow Him. Ted has tried to be faithful to Him ever since.

COOPER PHOTOS





Airman Norman Thomas Wojcik
United States Air Force
Chaplain Services Specialist
1966 - 1970

Norman Wojcik was born to Julius Wojcik and Frances Hilburger Wojcik on 6 January 1946, in Chicago, Illinois. He was raised in a very strict Roman Catholic home, being raised with three older siblings--one sister and two brothers.

When he was senior in high school, he received a Bible from his priest. Norm started to read it and asked the Lord to help him understand its meaning. After a few years, and seeing differences between it and the Catholic Church, he left the church and went searching. At that time, Norm was finishing a two-year course in culinary arts and was working at Café La Tour in downtown Chicago. Since he finished culinary art school in May of 1966, and had his military draft status changed to One-

A, he decided to join the United States Air Force, which he did in June of 1966.

Since he was seeking a closer relationship to God, Norm entered the United States Air Force desiring to become a Chaplain Services Specialist, which was simply a chaplain's assistant. He served as secretary to the chaplain and did all his correspondence. He also set up for all the chapel services and managed the chapel funds as the bookkeeper. It was here in May of 1967 that he prayed and committed my life to God and became a Christian. This was when he was at my first duty station at Beale AFB, in California.

In February of 1969 Norm got stationed at Anderson AFB, Guam, where he met an officer by the name of Ellsworth Van Deventer, who encouraged him to go to Tomlinson College in Cleveland, Tennessee, after he finished his enlistment with the Air Force. When Norm was discharged out of the Air Force in June of 1970, he went home to Chicago and became active in the Oak Lawn Church of God of Prophecy for the summer. In August of 1970 he left Chicago and went to Cleveland, Tennessee, and enrolled at Tomlinson College. It was during his time at Tomlinson College that he met his future wife, Judith (Judy) Chandler, and they were married in May of 1971.

Since Tomlinson College was a two-year institution, Norm enrolled at Lee College—now Lee University--which is also in Cleveland, Tennessee. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in education in May of 1973 and began teaching in elementary school for the Bradley County School System. While he was teaching, he enrolled at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and received his Master's Degree in Secondary Guidance Counseling in August of 1976.

After thirteen years of teaching elementary school, he took a position as a guidance counselor at Bradley Junior High School for six years. He then transferred to Bradley Central High School as a guidance counselor

for the next 16 years. After 35 years of education with the Bradley County School System, he retired in February of 2008.

His alma mater, Lee College, received the necessary accreditation and become a university in 2000. Since he was a retired guidance counselor, Lee University contacted and asked if he would be interested in evaluating students enrolled in their Master's program for guidance counselors. The professors placed their students in various schools in the Cleveland, Chattanooga, and nearby areas in Georgia. Norm would evaluate their performance in the classroom or in individual counseling settings, and after the evaluations were completed, he provided a report to their professor. This was done only in the spring semester with only eleven to eighteen students per semester. Norm did this for ten years, finishing all his educational work and finally totally retiring in 2018.

He and his wife Judy were active members of the Keith Street Church of God of Prophecy for thirty-five years and eventually transferred to the Peerless Road Church of God of Prophecy where they have now been members the past sixteen years. While attending the Keith Street Church he served in the positions of Sunday School teacher, deacon, treasurer, and also worked in the men's ministry. At the Peerless Road Church, Norm holds the positions of deacon, director of men's ministry and also assists the treasurer.

To quote Norm: "God has been faithful to me, and whatever good I may have done, to God be the glory!"



Specialist Five (SP5) James C (Jay) Crews
US Army Chaplain's Assistant
1967-1969

James C. (Jay) Crews served as a Chaplain's Assistant from October 1967 to May 1969 at Fort Dix, New Jersey. Before being drafted he supported his dad, Joe C. Crews who pastored churches in Georgia. and Florida. Jay participated in his dad's church, the Ocoee CoGoP, serving as everything from janitor to Clerk and Treasurer. Upon graduating from Orlando Junior College, Orlando, Florida, with an Associate Arts Degree in December 1966, Joe received his draft notice in January 1967, and reported for Basic Training at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Prior to his selection as a Chaplain Assistant, he completed basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia. and Advance Infantry Training (AIT) at Fort Dix, New Jersey. While on hold for his Officer Candidate School class to open, Jay was given the opportunity to change his Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) to Chaplain Assistant. He gives thanks to God for that opportunity.

He was assigned to the Personnel Center Chapels at Fort Dix, New Jersey. The Personal Center consisted of two (2) chapels with five (5)

chaplains. Upon being assigned Jay was promoted to Specialist E4 and later promoted to E5.

One of the highlights of his tour of duty was to speak at the Servicemen's Service at the 1968 General Assembly on the duties and responsibilities of a Chaplain Assistant. Elwood Matthews was very kind in his remarks in his follow-up letter to his commanding officer and to senior chaplain, Chaplain (COL) Sterling.

Another highlight was to work with other Chaplain Assistant's in planning, promoting and programming a Sunday evening chapel fellowship hour. Jay also worked with local churches and the Christian Servicemen Center, Trenton, New Jersey.

.Jay's military awards include the following:

National Defense Service Medal

Expert Rifle with Rifle Bar

Army Commendation Medal

In 1979 Jay married Nancy and they had two children: David and Darcy and four (4) grandchildren. Jay is a thirty-five (35) year retired banker who lives in Gainesville, Georgia, and worships with Pastor Jentezen Franklin at the Free Chapel in Gainesville, Georgia.



Chaplain, 1st Lt. E. C. McKinley
US Air Force, Civil Air Patrol Auxiliary
1989 - Present

E.C. McKinley is the Presiding Bishop of the Church of God of Prophecy in the State of Tennessee (U.S.A.) He oversees churches and para-church ministries along with the oversight and development of ministers. He also develops leadership-training materials for the local churches.

Dr. McKinley attended public schools in his hometown of Evansville, Indiana until becoming an active member of the United States Army. There he served as a Military Policeman, and then as a Military Police Investigator for a total of six years. He also served as a Deputy Sheriff in Tennessee and as a Police Chaplain for the Billings, Montana Police Department. He is an active member of the Global Chaplains Commission and the National Certified Chaplain's Association. He was appointed Chaplain in the Civil Air Patrol on December 1, 1989 with the rank of First Lieutenant

Dr. McKinley attended and graduated from Indiana Business College with an undergraduate degree in Accounting while serving as pastor of his first church. Shortly after graduation, he enrolled in seminary where he earned Master and Doctorate Degrees in Theology and Education. He

also served as an advisor for Pastoral Ministries at Southwest Bible College and Seminary.

Dr. McKinley has served three churches as senior pastor (two in Tennessee – Kingsport and Columbia), and has been involved in radio, and print ministry in each of these cities. He is a regular contributor to the *White Wing Messenger*, and has also contributed to the magazine, *Laity*. He was also featured in a chapter of the book “Miracle Invasion” by Dean Merrill. He is the author of one book, **Pulling Them From The Fire**.

Dr. McKinley was appointed as the Regional Overseer of the Northwest Territories (U.S.A.) where he served for four years. In 2002, Dr. McKinley was appointed to serve the Mid-America Region (U.S.A.) for two years. In 2004, Dr. McKinley was appointed to serve as the Presiding Bishop of Tennessee (U.S.A.) where he continues to serve at present. He serves as a member of the International Presbytery and is a Member of the North American Ministries Leadership Council. He and his wife, Debra reside in Hendersonville, Tennessee.



Chaplain, Lt. Col. L. Ronald Hamm
US Air Force Civil Air Patrol Auxiliary
1990 - Present

L. Ronald Hamm was born 9 February 1947 in Davidson County, Tennessee the son of Leonard and Mary Hamm. Ron began Evangelistic Ministry in 1957 at age 10 where he traveled with Rev. Harrison E. Price, World Evangelist for Church of God of Prophecy. Ron spent the summer of 1959 ministering with Brother Price in England.

Ron organized the Teen Age Quartet with Mylon Lefevre at age 14 and traveled extensively throughout the southern United States. In 1965 Ron graduated from Corrine L. Cohn High School in Nashville, Tennessee. Following graduation Ron married Elizabeth Diane Tice and they began pastoring the Green Briar Tennessee, Church of God of Prophecy. During this time Ron attended Middle Tennessee State University.

From 1967 to 1968 Ron became lead guitar player for The Imperials Quartet with Jake Hess. In 1968 he accepted a Mission Church in Memphis in 1968 and worked for Blackwood Brothers Quartet.

For the year 1970 he became fulltime Evangelist for Church of God of Prophecy when he organized the World Challenge Singers Crusade Team and traveled U.S. in Crusades. From 1972 to 1974 they pastored in Atlanta Georgia for two years where he served as Associate Chaplain at the Atlanta Federal Prison.

From 1975 to 1981 he re-entered Evangelistic Ministry as National Crusade Evangelist for Church Of God Of Prophecy where he traveled nationally and internationally with a family group in mass crusades working under Dr. Elwood Matthews, International Evangelism Director.

For the years 1982 to 1994 Ron was under general appointment with the CoGoP. He served the following states as State Overseer: From 1982 to 1987 he was in South Dakota; from 1987 to 1991 he was in West Texas and from 1991 to 1994 he was in Louisiana.

Reverend Hamm received the following degrees from the Great Plains Baptist College, Sioux Falls , South Dakota: Bachelor of Ministry and Master of Ministry; He received the Doctorate of Ministry and the Doctorate of Philosophy in Counseling from Great Plains Divinity School, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Bishop Hamm received the following licensures and certifications: Licensed Clinical Pastoral Counselor- Advanced Certification, National Christian Counselors Association; Board Certified Clinical Supervisor with the National Board of Clinical Therapists (Diplomat Status) National Christian Counselors Association

Ron Hamm maintained the following professional memberships: Professional Clinical Member of National Christian Counselors Association; Member of Sarasota Academy of Christian Counselors; Certified Forensic Counselor in Domestic Violence – National Association of Forensic Counselors; State of Tennessee Supreme Court Approved, Rules 31 Mediator/ Family Mediation Specialist Master

Trainer –Suicide Intervention. Living Works (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training); Member of Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network; Chaplain (LTC) United States Air Force Auxiliary (Civil Air Patrol) assigned to Berry Field Squadron / Homeland Security, Emergency Services Specialty, and Cadet Programs. Ron worked in the Dakotas, Texas and in Louisiana Civil Air Patrol jurisdictions.

Ron Hamm began his career in Civil Air Patrol as a cadet in 1962 in the state of Tennessee. He rose to rank of Cadet Lt. Col. Squadron Commander/Drill team commander. He lost contact over the years with the organization until he moved to South Dakota. His son, Leny, showed interest and they began to work together in 1983. Ron worked with cadet programs at the time, training drill teams that went to National Compete for 4 consecutive years. His years as a cadet leader had paid off.

Ron applied to the Chaplaincy after moving to West Texas as overseer. He received his Chaplaincy appointment in 1990 where he served on too many search and rescue sorties to count. He also cross trained as a navigator/ observer on air missions for search and rescue. Ron worked on missions with DEA, Natural Disaster Relief, and Homeland Security and worked in Critical Incident Debriefs in Katrina and other disasters.

Chaplain Hamm conducted funerals, weddings, counseling, letters of recommendation for all branches of the military academies, and two for Rhodes Scholars. Ron has served each "Wing" (state) as Chaplain at encampments, etc. and have won Chaplain of the Year awards in each state at least once and two of them more than once. Ron was Chaplain of the Oshkosh air show once and on staff once.

He has trained young people who are now serving in full military careers. One is a PJOC/ Major, USAF with 178 saves to his credit. Another is a squadron commander (Lt./Col.) at the airbase in Hawaii. Many more he trained graduated from the service academies and went on to military careers.

Ron has always tried to be a "ministry of presence' where ever he has served. Ron is still on the roster of Chaplains in Tennessee, but is inactive. All of his drill teams over the years have made it to the finals until about 10 year ago when they changed the entire program. Ron said this about the CAP program. "CAP as one of the finest youth programs ever!"

In 1994 Ron resigned as overseer of Louisiana and moved back home to Nashville to pastor and care for his ageing mother. In 1998 Ron resigned his Bishopric from Church Of God of Prophecy to become Founder/Pastor, Cedar Ridge Church, Mt. Juliet, Tennessee and Founder /President of Institute of Counselor Development/ School of Ministry and Counseling.

In 2016 Ron retired from active pastoral ministry.

HAMM PHOTOS





Chaplain, 1Lt. Grady F. Fulton
US Air Force Civil Air Patrol Auxiliary
1996 - 2000

Grady F. Fulton was born 30 July 1945 as an identical twin to his parents, Aubrey B Fulton and Mary Estelle Mayhall at the Baptist Hospital in Jackson, Mississippi. His identical twin is Ben M Fulton who lives in Suffolk, Virginia.

His formal education includes graduation from Hammond, Louisiana High School in 1964 and from Southeastern Louisiana University in 1968 with a Bachelor in Arts Degree. Grady attended Tomlinson College in Cleveland, Tennessee the fall semester in 1980. In 1982 Grady received a Class A Teaching Certificate from William Carey University in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

From July 1996 to July 2000 Grady served as a Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Chaplain for the Jackson, Mississippi area reaching the rank of First Lieutenant. He attended the Civil Air Patrol Staff College at Maxwell AFB in Montgomery, Alabama. Along with his twin brother Ben Fulton, Grady has attended every Community Chaplain course the CoGoP Chaplaincy Ministries Department has offered since October 2004.

Grady has attended every Bible Training Camp and Institute that CoGoP has offered. From his 1st Term: Summer 1967 in Fresno, California, to terms 2 through 4 and the 50th Anniversary session in Cleveland, Tennessee from 1981 to 1990. Grady was set forth as a Bishop 30 December 1985 with license number 6706.

Grady has 52 yrs of continuous pastoral ministry having served the following churches / pastorates: Hammond, Louisiana from Jan. 1970 to July 1976; Columbus, Mississippi from July 1976- July 1978; Magee, Mississippi from July 1978 - July 1980; Flora, Mississippi from July 1980 to July 1990; and Natchez, Mississippi from July 1990 to the present.

Grady Married Cathy G. West of Fulton, Mississippi on 3 March 1980. Grady has two unmarried children: Amanda E Fulton, born 28 September 1981 who is an X-Ray Tech and Aubrey V Fulton born 7 November 1985 who is a Doctor of Optometry (OD) in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Grady's wife Cathy West Fulton died on 1 November 2010.

FULTON PHOTOS





Chaplain, Cpt. James E. Brisson
US Air Force Civil Air Patrol Auxiliary
1974 - 1980

James E. Brisson was born on 22 October 1936 in Stedman, North Carolina the son of James Thomas and Elizabeth Brisson. They were members of the Church of God of Prophecy in Stedman, North Carolina.

While attending Stedman high school he worked for Colonial Grocery in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Under the influence of Roland Nunnery James learned how to fly an airplane. Instead of purchasing a first automobile, James bought an airplane. As a result James courted his wife Linnette in an airplane. He early on became a part of the White Angel Fleet an extension of the Church of Prophecy Marker Association. He answered the call to ministry in North Carolina and began pastoring CoGoP churches.

In 1974 while pastoring the High Point, North Carolina CoGoP Reverend Brisson applied for and was accepted into the Civil Air Patrol Chaplaincy serving the North Carolina area. James was appointed to the rank of Captain with an effective date of 1 February 1974. He continued to faithfully serve the Civil Air Patrol until he moved from the North Carolina area and assumed the pastorate of the Peerless Road Church of God of Prophecy, Cleveland, Tennessee. Due to increased pastoral

responsibilities his status in the Civil Air Patrol Chaplaincy was placed into an inactive status.

Bishop Brisson continued to serve CoGoP as pastor of the Hickory Valley CoGoP in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and then as the State Overseer of the states of Mississippi, Louisiana and Virginia. After serving the general church as Ministerial Aid Director, he retired to North Carolina. While serving in Cleveland, Tennessee, Chaplain Brisson often would fly Bishop M. A. Tomlinson, in the church airplane.

He and his wife Linnette Williams Brisson had two children: a daughter, Brenda who married Scott Gillem and they serve as the CoGoP State Overseer of Florida; and a son, Ron. He and his wife, Joy, pastor the New Life CoGoP in Wake Forest, North Carolina.

HISTORY OF THE MILITARY RETREATS IN GERMANY

The very first military Servicemen's Retreat was held in Germany in November 1971 under the direction of CPT Don Hull an artillery officer who came from the Bessemer CoGoP in Alabama. It was held at the Armed Forces Recreation Center (AFRC) in Berchtesgaden, Germany. The guest speakers were Elwood Matthews (Servicemen's Representative), Harry Lee Moore (Radio Minister) and Charles Hawkins (Mission Secretary), A total of 47 people attended the retreat including Roy Mixon, Overseer of England, and William Cretier, Overseer of Germany. (SN: Vol V No. 57, January 1972). The retreat was a success, with two missions being started as a result and additional retreats were to be scheduled annually. (Minutes – 67th AA CoGoP, Cleveland, TN: WWPH, 1972)

In 1979 Chaplain (CPT) Douglas Stephenson led the 9th annual CoGoP Servicemen's Retreat at the Armed Forces Recreation Center (AFRC) in Berchtesgaden, Germany, 28 October to 2 November at the Alpine Retreat Center and Chapel with over fifty (50) of our CoGoP military personnel in attendance. The theme of the retreat was: "Togetherness – A Way of Life." In attendance from the United States was our Servicemen's Representative Bobby R. Snow and special guest Curtis Flippo from Alabama. A real treat for us was the special musical presentation of Curtis Flippo on piano; Larry Turner on trumpet; and Damon Swan on the guitar.

In 1980 Chaplain (MAJ) Douglas Stephenson led the 10th Annual CoGoP Servicemen's Retreat in Berchtesgaden in December at the Alpine Retreat Center and Chapel with over sixty (60) of our CoGoP military personnel in attendance. The theme of the retreat was: "When the Spirit Moves." In attendance from the United States was our Servicemen's Representative Bobby R. Snow, and special guests: Bishop Elwood Matthews, International Director of Evangelism, and his wife, Roberta; Bishop Joe T. White, National Overseer from England,

and his wife, Shirley; Bishop E. E. Van Deventer, Mission Representative to Europe and Africa and a retired US Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, and his wife, Joyce; and Bishop J. David Fowler, National Overseer of Germany-Holland, and his wife Regina and daughter, Chandra.



In 1981 Chaplain (MAJ) Douglas Stephenson led the 11th Annual Servicemen's Retreat in Berchtesgaden from 30 November to 4 December at the Alpine Retreat Center and Chapel with over forty (40) of our CoGoP military personnel in attendance. The theme of the retreat was: "Military Touched By God: For Victorious Living." In attendance from the United States was our Servicemen's Representative Bobby R. Snow. Special guests and retreat staff included: Bishop E. E. Van Deventer, Mission Representative to Europe and Africa and a retired US Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, and his wife, Joyce; and Bishop J. David Fowler, National Overseer of Germany-Holland, and his wife Regina and daughter, Chandra.

In 1984 Chaplain (MAJ) Jerry Moates US Army Chaplain served as project officer and CMS Frank Shroyer US Air Force served as his assistant project officer in leading the annual Germany military retreat at Berchtesgaden, Germany from 3-7 December 1984. “Soldiers of the Light” was the theme of the retreat where there were over 50 people in attendance. Classes for both men and women were conducted by Jerry Madrid the National Overseer from Spain and Portugal and Annette Moates, Chaplain Moates’ wife. Chris and Gail Stathis attended the retreat from Greece and conducted the evening worship services which proved a blessing to all. An internationally known gospel recording artist, Chuck Gerard, provided special music throughout the retreat. One young soldier was saved as the men participated in a feet washing service following the sacrament of communion.



In 1987 Chaplain (LTC) Douglas R Stephenson led the 17th Annual Retreat in Berchtesgaden in December at the Armed Forces Recreation Center (AFRC) Hof Hotel with over seventy-five (75) of our CoGoP military personnel in attendance. The theme of the retreat was: “Blow Thee the Trumpet in Zion.” In attendance from the United States was

our Servicemen's Representative Bobby R. Snow. Special guests and retreat staff included Bishop Chris Stathis, National Overseer from Greece, and his wife, Gail, and son Micah; Bishop E. E. Van Deventer, Mission Representative to Europe and Africa and a retired US Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, and his wife, Joyce; and Bishop Dennis Howard, National Overseer of Germany-Holland, and his wife Barbara; Bishop Clayton Endecott, Pastor of the Langen CoGoP, and his family; Chaplain Cpt. Jon Stovall, US Air Force Chaplain at Rhein Main AFB and his family.

FREEDOM RETREAT TO BERLIN, GERMANY, JULY 1987

The 4th of July weekend in 1987 Chaplain (LTC) Douglas R. Stephenson, 6th GSMC Chaplain, and Chaplain (MAJ) Jerry Moates, led a group of about twenty-five (25) people on this Freedom Retreat to Berlin. This retreat began with an overnight train ride from the Main Train Station in Frankfurt, Germany to the Berlin Train Station. This trip required each participant to have flag orders. Since Roberta Matthews and Joyce Van Deventer were members of this retreat party it required prior planning with passports and visas. Without the invaluable assistance of a CoGoP Chaplain Assistant, Staff Sergeant Steve Wilson, a member of the Berlin Brigade, this retreat would not have happened. Steve worked out of the Berlin Brigade's Chaplains Office.

Steve arranged for us to use the Roosevelt Barracks for billeting and the Berlin Chapel for our retreat meetings. Steve also helped set up various tours and trips. He also arranged for the use of the officer's annex overlooking Lake Wannsee. We used the annex for the final Sunday morning worship and communion service. With Steve Wilson's help we were able to acquire the original barbed wire from the first Berlin wall erected by the communists. Chaplain Stephenson gave out pieces of this barred wire as a memento of the Freedom Retreat.

OTHER MILITARY RETREATS

The CoGoP held many other military retreats and services through the auspices of the Military Servicemen's Department where each state overseer appointed a state servicemen's director. On at least two occasions in the state of Georgia Bishop Randall Dockery lead a Servicemen's Program immediately prior to the Sunday appointments. Brother Dockery asked Chaplain (LTC) Douglas R. Stephenson to sing the patriotic song entitled, "The Statute of Liberty," on both occasions.

Outstanding military retreats were held in locations such as Anchorage, Alaska, under the leadership of Overseer Tommy Queener; in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado with the help of Iowa Overseer Thomas Feltman; at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, under the leadership of State Overseer W. E. Johnson; and on the island of Okinawa with the leadership of SSG Dallas Morris. Additional retreats were also held in numerous other locations such as East Texas and North Carolina. Chaplain Stephenson provided leadership for military retreats held at the Breezewood Acres CoGoP in Hope Mills, North Carolina and at the John F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY SERVICEMEN'S PROGRAM 1975

