

## BG William J. Gothard, USA, Ret.



BG Jay Gothard was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry upon graduation from the University of Dayton ROTC program in 1978. His first assignment was with the 82d Airborne Division, Ft. Bragg, NC, as a Rifle Platoon Leader. BG Gothard graduated from the Special Forces Qualification Course in 1980 and served with the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Groups, the Special Warfare Training Group as a Military Freefall Instructor, and classified assignments. BG assessed in the Army Acquisition Corp in 1992 accepting a classified Civil Service position and Reserve Commission In the U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command. Selected for promotion and command, BG Gothard commanded the 353<sup>rd</sup> Civil Affairs Command from 2008-2010.

Recalled to Active duty on multiple occasions, BG Gothard served as the Training Officer for pre-deployment training for the Bosnia operations, and operations at the U.S. Joint Forces Command after the September 11, 2001 attacks. BG Gothard deployed to Iraq in

2006 as the Chief U.S. Advisor to the Commanding General of the Iraqi 5<sup>th</sup> Division. BG Gothard served as the Deputy Chief of Staff, G7, at U.S. Southern Command during the Haiti earthquake relief effort in 2010. From April 2010 until November 2011, BG Gothard served as the Deputy Commanding General, Support and Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Reserve Command. BG Gothard retired from the Army as the Deputy Commanding General of the 81<sup>st</sup> Regional Support Command, Ft. Jackson, SC, in May 2014. BG Gothard's awards include the Defense Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Master Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger and Special Forces Tabs.

BG Gothard retired from Civil Service at the U.S. Army Special Operations Command in January 2019, where he served as the Chief and Senior Program Manager of the Science and Technology Division. BG Gothard is a recipient of the David Packard Award for Acquisition Excellence for his work on the Multi-purpose Anti-Armor Weapon System (Carl Gustav) and is a Level III (Professional) Certified Program Manager.

BG Gothard holds an MA in Management from Webster University, a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College, a Certificate in National Security Studies from Syracuse University, and a Certificate in Non-Profit Management from Notre Dame University. BG Gothard is also a graduate of the U.S. Air Force War College, the Defense Language Institute, and the Defense Acquisition University.

BG General has served the City of Fayetteville, State of NC, and Ft. Bragg communities in many volunteer positions: Member of the Fayetteville Historic Resources Commission, Chair, Fayetteville Zoning Commission, Assistant Scoutmaster and Charter Organization Representative, Museum of the Cape Fear Board, Gilbert Theater Board, Kiwanis Club Board of Directors, Ft. Bragg Armed Service YMCA Board, and President, Defense Alliance of NC Management Council. BG Gothard is a Private Pilot, PADI Master and IDC Staff SCUBA Instructor, and NC High School Athletic Association Swimming Official. BG Gothard is a recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine from the Governor of the State of North Carolina.

BG Gothard is married to the former Jan McMillan and they have two sons: Lowell, a U.S. Army Captain and Blackhawk Helicopter Pilot serving at Ft. Campbell, KY, and William, an Ohio Air National Guard 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant and MQ-9 Reaper Attack Pilot and civilian Aerospace Research Engineer.