



## Colonel John D. Kline

Col. John D. Kline currently serves in the Pentagon as the Deputy Director of Army Aviation at Headquarters, Department of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7. He has a distinguished career of over 24 years in the United States Army.

Col. Kline graduated from Shippensburg University in 1992 with a degree in Criminal Justice and was commissioned a Field Artillery officer in the United States Army. After completing the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, he was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado where he served as an infantry company fire support officer and later an MLRS platoon leader. In 1995, he transferred from the field artillery to the aviation branch and graduated from flight school at Fort Rucker, Alabama as an UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter aviator.

Prior to his current assignment at the Pentagon, Col. Kline served as Commander of the Train, Advise, Assist Command – Southwest in Helmand Province, Afghanistan from 2015-2016. From 2013-2015, he commanded the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia. He previously deployed with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division to Iraq from 2005-2006 and to Afghanistan from 2007-2008 and 2010-2011 as a battalion commander and deputy brigade commander.

He has served in a variety of conventional aviation assignments overseas and in the continental United States, including Yongsan, Korea; Heidelberg, Germany; Giebelstadt, Germany; Fort Meade, Maryland; Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and Fort Bliss, Texas.

He holds Master's Degrees in Administration from Central Michigan University and National Security/Strategic Studies from the Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. Col. Kline is a rated Master Aviator and has earned the Combat Action Badge, the Air Assault Badge and the Airborne Badge. His awards are typical for his time in service including four combat deployments.

Col. Kline resides in Fairfax Station, Virginia with his wife of 21 years, the former Kimberly Anne Fore of Oaklyn, NJ. They have two children; Nicholas (17) Juliana (15).

**William H. Burkhart Shippensburg University  
ROTC Hall of Fame Nomination**

**Colonel John D. Kline – Shippensburg University ROTC Class of 1992**

Col. John D. Kline is nominated for induction into the William H. Burkhart Shippensburg University ROTC Hall of Fame for his lifetime of selfless service to the Nation and United States Army. In both word and deed, Col. Kline has exemplified the Army Values throughout his distinguished career.

Beginning as a Second Lieutenant Field Artillery officer stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado, he has served in leadership and command positions from platoon to brigade, serving most recently as the Commander of the Train, Advise, Assist Command – Southwest in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. During this deployment, his fourth since 2001, Col. Kline led the NATO effort in training and advising our Afghan army and police partners in providing security for their population in arguably one of the most critical and challenging areas of Afghanistan.

Col. Kline served as the Commander of 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia from 2013-2015. He provided unwavering dedication and leadership to the over 2,700 Soldiers and families assigned to the brigade. Equipped with over 120 rotary-wing and unmanned aircraft, the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade successfully deployed Soldiers to Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq and Europe during his command, a direct result of his leadership and tactical prowess. He organized and participated in a number of community activities, connecting the military with the local community in a way that will stand the test of time.

Col. Kline exemplified leadership and personal courage during the height of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, serving as an executive officer, Assault Helicopter Battalion Commander and deputy brigade commander in the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. In each instance, he served as an air mission commander and flew well over 1,000 hours in support of conventional and special operations forces performing the most dangerous missions in each country.

Col. Kline has also demonstrated commitment to lifelong learning. He holds a Master's Degree in Administration from Central Michigan University and a Master's Degree in National Security / Strategic Studies from the Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. He completed multiple military education course with distinction, including the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Aviation Captain's Career Course, Command and General Staff College and the Air War College.

Over his 24 year career in the Army, Col. John Kline has distinguished himself as an exceptional Soldier, leader, husband and father. That commitment to his family, his Soldiers and his community will undoubtedly continue well into the future. As a result, he is a worthy inductee into the William H. Burkhart Shippensburg University Hall of Fame. His selfless service to our great Nation warrants the highest honor and reflects great credit upon himself, Shippensburg University ROTC and the United States Army.