

## COLONEL PATRICK E. CONNORS II

**Colonel Pat Connors** enlisted in the Army in 1984 at the age of 17 and served in the U.S. Army Reserve for 2.5 years attaining the rank of Specialist (E-4). After graduating from college on an ROTC scholarship, he received his regular Army commission in 1989. Still on active status, COL Connors has served over 24 years on active duty as an U.S. Army officer.

Throughout his career, COL Connors has served as a Field Artillery Officer, a Military Intelligence Officer and a Training Simulations Officer in a wide variety of command and staff positions from the platoon through echelons above corps level, including Company Fire Support Officer, Battery Fire Direction Officer, Battery Executive Officer, Battalion Intelligence Officer, Company Commander, Assistant Corps Collection Manager, Division Simulation Officer, Chief of Experimentation, Training Simulations Officer, Assistant Project Manager, Chief of Operations for the Warrior Transition Command managing all the Army's Wounded Warriors, and Capabilities Manager for all the Army's live training requirements at the Training and Doctrine Command. He has served in numerous locations in the U.S. and overseas including Panama, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait. COL Connors is currently assigned to the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation in Orlando, Florida.

Operational Deployments: Assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division as an Infantry Company Fire Support Officer during OPERATION JUST CAUSE, Panama, Dec 89-Jan 90 and OPERATION DESERT SHIELD/STORM, Saudi Arabia and Iraq, Aug 90-Apr 91; Assigned to the Office of Military Cooperation, U.S. Embassy, Kuwait, as the J3 (Operations) Advisor to the Kuwait Armed Forces during OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, Jun 04-Jun 05.

COL Connors' civilian education includes a BS in Business Administration from John Carroll University, Cleveland, OH, 1989; a MS in Simulations and Training Systems from the University of Central Florida, 1999; and a MS in Engineering Management from the University of Central Florida, 2002. His military education includes the Field Artillery Officer's Basic Course, Military Intelligence Officer's Advanced Course, Combined Arms Service Staff School, Simulation Operations Qualification Course, Command and General Staff College, and was selected to attend the Senior Service College.

COL Connors' military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (w/4 OLC), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal (w/2 Service Stars), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (w/Arrowhead Device), Southwest Asia Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), and the Master Parachutist Badge.

COL Connors is active in the Central Florida community in a variety of volunteer and professional organizations. He is the 2013 Program Committee Chair for the Camaraderie Foundation; a member of the Executive Committee for the Association of the US Army (AUSA) Sunshine Chapter; a special advisor to the On Course Foundation (golf-related foundation for Wounded Warriors in the US and UK); the founder of the Florida Citrus Sports Military Affairs Committee in 2006; a member of the Florida Citrus Sports Selection Committee; and was honored as the 2008-2009 Florida Citrus Sports Volunteer of the Year. COL Connors also holds active memberships in the Central Florida chapters of the National Defense Industrial Association and the Army Aviation Association of America.

COL Connors is married and has two step-daughters and a 6-year old granddaughter. His wife, Karen, is the president of a local defense consulting firm.

(Current as of Feb 2013)