

CHAPLAIN (COLONEL) DAVID B. KENNEDY
Army of the United States (Retired)



Chaplain David B. Kennedy was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1945 and grew up in Richardson, Texas. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History at the University of Texas at Austin (1967), and a Master of Theology degree at Dallas Theological Seminary, Dallas, Texas (1971). He engaged in further graduate study at Dallas Theological Seminary, and St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri.

Chaplain Kennedy was ordained on 6 June 1971, served in church planting in Oklahoma in 1971-74, and served as Senior Pastor of Edgemont Bible Church and Director of Berean Christian School, East St. Louis and Fairview Heights, Illinois, 1974-79. In August 1980, he joined the faculty of Grand Rapids Theological Seminary of Cornerstone University, Grand Rapids, Michigan. After teaching for 32 years, he retired in 2012. Today he is Emeritus Professor of Old Testament. He was endorsed as an Army Reserve chaplain by the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches and is a member of Berean Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

In January 1972 he was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve. His early assignments in the Army Reserve included service in the 95th Division (Training), Tulsa, OK, 329th Supply and Service Battalion, St. Louis, MO, and 25th Combat Support Hospital, St. Louis, MO. He served as Command Chaplain for the 300th Military Police Command (Enemy Prisoner of War/Civilian Internee), Inkster, Michigan, for 16 years (1980-92 and 1997-2001). He served in the Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Washington DC (1993-97), as Division Chaplain, 85th Training Support Division, Arlington Heights, IL (2001-04), and as Deputy Joint Staff Chaplain, The Joint Staff, Washington DC (2004-05). He was mobilized in January 2003 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as a part of the 85th Division for service in the U.S. After serving for one year, he was transferred to the Pentagon to serve as Deputy Joint Staff Chaplain for six more months on active duty. He retired from the US Army Reserve on 1 June 2005 with 33 years of service. On 5 August 1992 Chaplain Kennedy was promoted to the rank of Colonel. He also served as Chaplain Endorser for Converge Worldwide, 2010-12.

Chaplain Kennedy's military education includes the Chaplain Officer Basic Course (1972) as well as several other Chaplain courses. He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College (Ft. Leavenworth, Nonresident, 1984) and the Army War College (1997). His paper, "Retrospect and Prospect: Roles of Chaplains in Providing for the Religious Needs of Enemy Prisoners of War," received the Army War College Foundation Writing Award.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit and Defense Meritorious Service Medal among others. He was also awarded Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

Chaplain Kennedy is a member of the Military Chaplains Association, the Military Officers Association of America, the Reserve Officers Association, the American Legion, and is currently the president of the Grand Rapids Army and Navy Club. Chaplain Kennedy is married to the former Coila Nell Moss of Llano, Texas. They have three adult children: Rochelle, Travis and Michael.