

**Captain Bill Sherrod, Ed.D.
U.S. Navy (Retired)**

Captain William ‘Bill’ Sherrod is a 1994 graduate from Jacksonville University in 1994 with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and his commission through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps. In 1999, Captain Sherrod redesignated to Naval Aviation and completed flight training, earning his Wings of Gold in 2000. He holds a Master of Arts in National Security Affairs from the Naval War College, College of Naval Warfare, and a Doctor of Education in Organizational Change and Leadership from the University of Southern California.

Captain Sherrod served operational assignments as a Surface Warfare Officer aboard USS Gonzalez (DDG 66) as *Plankowner* First Lieutenant and as Auxiliaries Officer and aboard USS Shamal (PC 13) as Operations Officer and Navigator where he deployed in support of Special Operations Command South and Joint Interagency Task Force-East conducting counter-narcotrafficking operations.



As a Naval Aviator flying the SH-60B Seahawk, he served in Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 46 and embarked helicopter detachments deployed on USS Dewert (FFG 45) as Air Operations in support of NATO’s Standing Naval Force Atlantic, on USS Vella Gulf (CG 72) as Maintenance Officer deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as part of the USS George Washington Carrier Strike Group, and on USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG 81) as Officer in Charge supporting US-UK Joint Maritime Course. Captain Sherrod reported to (HSL 44) for his department head tour where he served as squadron Training Officer, Operations Officer, and conducted humanitarian assistance operations in response to Hurricane Katrina. He deployed as Officer-in Charge embarked USS Hue City (CG 66) where he served as Helicopter Element Coordinator for Combined Task Group 150.1 and Naval Special Warfare-led Task Force Hook conducting Maritime Security Operations and armed helicopter/maritime search and rescue in support of Joint Task Force Lebanon contingency operations.

In 2010, Captain Sherrod was selected for Aviation Command. He served as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of HSL-49 where he led the manning, training, equipping, and preparation of 13 expeditionary helicopter detachments. Under his leadership, HSL-49 earned the Sikorsky Golden Wrench for maintenance excellence and subsequently received a Meritorious Unit Commendation. Following his command tour, Captain Sherrod served as Navigator on USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) and led a 10-month deployment safely navigating over 60,000 NM and sustaining 180 days of combat operations from the Northern Arabian Gulf. In 2015, Captain Sherrod was selected for Aviation Major Command and served as the Executive Officer and Commanding Officer on USS Somerset (LPD 25) where he conducted deployed amphibious operations in Third, Fifth, and Seventh Fleets to include National Mission Force raids against foreign terrorist organizations.

Ashore, Captain Sherrod served at US Special Operations Command as a Joint Concepts Planner leading development of the *Capstone Concept for Joint Operations* and the *Irregular Warfare Joint Operating*

Concept 2.0. He deployed as the Chief of Operations for Joint Task Force, Balad, Iraq coordinating support for over 300 high-risk National Mission Force direct-action counter-terrorism missions.

Additionally, he served as a policy analyst assigned to Commander, Naval Air Forces Pacific. Captain Sherrod assumed command Naval Support Activity Lakehurst in July 2019 and concurrently served as Joint Base McGuire Dix Lakehurst Deputy Commander – Navy where his leadership across a broad range of support activities on a 42,000-acre tri-service installation with \$3.5B in real property assets supporting over 53,000 personnel assigned to the Air Force Expeditionary Center, five Air Force Wings, and 88 mission partners garnered consecutive Air Force Outstanding Unit awards.

Captain Sherrod reported to the Naval Postgraduate School in July 2021 where he served as the Director, President's Action Group, and the Deputy Director (Navy) Naval Warfare Studies Institute, Director, Office of Strategic Initiatives, Assistant Chief of Staff for Aviation Activities, and the Air Warfare Chair prior to assuming duties as Chief of Staff and Commanding Officer, Military Staff Element.

Captain Sherrod is authorized to wear the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medals, and several Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medals, Joint Service Achievement Medals, and Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medals.

Captain Sherrod is married to the former Sarah Elizabeth Dixon, a Navy helicopter pilot who continues to serve as the Executive Officer of a Navy Reserve Unit. He is the proud father of three daughters, Aubrey, Anna, Madison, and one hyper-active Labrador retriever, Smith.