



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL KENT E. HARBAUGH JR

Col Kent E. Harbaugh Jr is the Deputy Commander of the 110th Wing at Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, Michigan. The Wing is comprised of 1,000 Airmen within four Groups; an Operations Group conducting MQ-9 and Cyber defense missions, an Air Operations Group providing operational-level planning and command and control in the European and African theaters, a Mission Support Group generating agile combat support for combatant commanders and a Medical Group delivering medical care for members across the globe.

Col Harbaugh was commissioned at the United States Air Force Academy in 1994 and attended Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training at Sheppard AFB, Texas. During 23 years of active duty service he performed training and operational flying roles as an F-16 mission commander and T-38 and T-6A instructor pilot. The colonel has deployed multiple times as an F-16 pilot in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, IRAQI FREEDOM, ENDURING FREEDOM, NOBLE EAGLE and ALLIES WELCOME and served as Aide-de-Camp for the commander of U.S. Air Forces Central. Col Harbaugh commanded the T-6A schoolhouse from 2010 to 2012, producing the instructor pilots that teach over 90 percent of the Air Force's aviators. The colonel joined the Michigan Air National Guard in 2017 and served as the Director of Current and Strategic Operations and Commander of the 217th Air Component Operations Squadron.



Col Harbaugh has accumulated more than 3,000 hours of flight time and has combat time in five different aircraft types. Prior to his current position, the colonel was the Commander of the 217th Air Operations Group.

EDUCATION

- 1994 Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Engineering, United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo.
- 1999 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2006 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2007 Master of Science in Aeronautical Science Technology, Embry-Riddle University, Daytona Beach, Fla.
- 2012 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2018 Combined Air and Space Operations Senior Staff Course, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
- 2019 Air National Guard Commander's Development Course, Andrews AFB, Md.
- 2019 Safety & Accident Investigation Board President Course, Andrews AFB, Md.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 1994 – May 1996, Student Pilot, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training, Sheppard AFB, Texas
2. May 1996 – February 1997, F-16 Student, 309th Fighter Squadron, Luke AFB, Ariz.
3. February 1997 – February 1998, F-16 Fighter Pilot, 35th Fighter Squadron, Kunsan AB, Korea
4. February 1998 – December 1999, Assistant Weapons & Tactics Officer, 389th Fighter Squadron, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho

5. December 1999 – October 2000, Chief of Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses, 366th Operational Support Squadron, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho
6. October 2000 – February 2003, T-38 Flight Commander, 87th Flying Training Squadron, Laughlin AFB, Texas
7. February 2003 – May 2004, Chief of T-38 Standardization and Evaluations, 47th Operations Group, Laughlin AFB, Texas
8. May 2004 – January 2007, F-16 Assistant Director of Operations, 79th Fighter Squadron, Shaw AFB, S.C.
9. January 2007 – September 2007, Deputy Chief of the Commander's Action Group, U.S. Air Forces Central, Shaw AFB, S.C.
10. September 2007 – June 2008, Aide-de-Camp to the Commander, Ninth Air Force, Shaw AFB, S.C.
11. June 2008 – January 2011, T-6 Flight Examiner, 559th Flying Training Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas
12. January 2011 – February 2012, Director of Operations, 559th Flying Training Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas
13. February 2012 – October 2013, Commander, 559th Flying Training Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas
14. October 2013 – March 2014, Chief of Current Operations and Policy, Air Education and Training Command, Randolph AFB, Texas
15. March 2014 – May 2017, Chief of Combat Operations, 603rd Air Operations Center, Ramstein AB, Germany
16. June 2017 – March 2018, Director of Current and Strategic Operations, 217th Air Component Operations Squadron, Battle Creek ANGB, Mich.
17. April 2018 – January 2022, Commander, 217th Air Component Operations Squadron, Battle Creek ANGB, Mich. (October 2019 – September 2020, Vice Commander, 603rd Air Operations Center, Ramstein AFB, Germany) (August 2021 – October 2021, Chief of Staff, Task Force Holloman, Holloman AFB, N.M.)
18. February 2022 – May 2023, Commander, 217th Air Operations Group, Battle Creek ANGB, Mich.
19. June 2023 – Present, Deputy Commander, 110th Wing, Battle Creek ANGB, Mich.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight hours: more than 3,000

Aircraft flown: T-37B, T-38A, AT-38B, F-16 C/D, T-6A, CH2000, SB7L-360A

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Bronze Star

Meritorious Service Medal, 3 Oak Leaf Clusters

Air Medal, 4 Oak Leaf Clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal, 1 Oak Leaf Cluster

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air and Space Commendation Medal, 1 Oak Leaf Cluster

Air and Space Achievement Medal, 1 Oak Leaf Cluster

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

1997 F-16 Fighter Training Unit Distinguished Graduate

2002 T-38 Flight Commander of the Year

2006 Ninth Air Force Daedalian Exceptional Pilot Award

2006 U.S. Air Force Anthony Shine Award Finalist

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant June 1, 1994

First Lieutenant June 1, 1996

Captain June 1, 1998

Major July 1, 2004

Lieutenant Colonel July 1, 2009

Colonel December 1, 2018

(Current as of August 2023)