

JON C. KREITZ **REAR ADMIRAL, U.S. NAVY (RETIRED)**

Rear Adm. Jon Kreitz enlisted in the U.S. Navy in May 1982 as a Machinist's Mate, serving on the USS Nassau (LHA 4). He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Physics and received a commission through the NROTC program at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He holds a Master of Science Degree in Physics from the Naval Postgraduate School and a Master of Military Art and Science Degree in Strategy from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. He is a graduate of the CAPSTONE course for Flag and General Officer at the National Defense University. He was also a Fellow of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Seminar XXI program for International Affairs and National Security.

Kreitz has also served at sea on the USS Bunker Hill (CG 52), USS Mitscher (DDG 57), and USS Enterprise (CVN 65) prior to commanding the USS Stephen W. Groves (FFG 29) where his crew interdicted nearly 20 metric tons of cocaine during two counter narco-terrorism operations deployments. He also commanded USS New York (LPD 21) for her maiden deployment, earning a Battle 'E' Award and the 2013 Atlantic Fleet Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund Award as the most battle ready ship in the Atlantic Fleet.



Ashore, he has served at Headquarters, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command, along with three tours on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV), including assignments in multiple resource sponsor offices. He served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) as the Chief of Staff and Senior Military Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. He also served on the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Staff as the Executive Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

Kreitz' first flag officer tour was as the 66th President, Board of Inspection and Survey. His final assignment was as the Deputy Director for Operations of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency where he led record increases in the return of Americans missing from past conflicts. He retired in December 2019 after over 37 years of service.

While in the Navy, he also served as a Deputy Sheriff I (Extra Help) with the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Department (OCSD) in California for over ten years.

He currently serves as the President and Chairman of the Board of Mission: POW-MIA, a POW/MIA family advocacy 501(c)3 that seeks the fullest possible accounting of unaccounted-for Americans from all past conflicts. He also serves on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Surface Navy Association and Healing Through History. He briefly served as the CEO and as a Senior Advisor to the National League of POW/MIA Families. He was nominated in 2020 to serve as the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (without Senate action). Additionally, he volunteers with several other Veteran's advocacy and animal welfare not-for-profit organizations.

A life-long equestrian, he serves on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), the National Governing Body for equestrian sport in America. He is a Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) licensed Dressage Steward and a USEF licensed Dressage Technical Delegate, officiating at equestrian competitions across the United States and internationally.