

Biography of Rabbi Bruce E. Kahn, D. D. CAPT, CHC, USN (Ret)

Born November 7, 1945. Married Toby Andrea Levin August 18, 1968. We have two married daughters and three grandchildren.

Earned Degrees: Bachelor of Arts. Bachelor of Hebrew Letters. Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters. Rabbi. Honorary Degree: Doctor of Divinity.

Commissioned an ensign in June, 1970. Upon ordination in 1974 immediately entered active duty. Two years active duty at Naval Air Station Memphis. Assigned as collateral duty Staff Chaplain Marine Aviation Training Support Group 90 (3,000 Marines.) Served twenty-six years as a reservist. Three times a unit commanding officer, once a regional senior chaplain. Almost all reserve work performed in active duty commands: Fleet Religious Support Activity NOB, Office of the Navy Chief of Chaplains, National Naval Medical Center Bethesda, Operational Ministries Atlantic Fleet, Fleet Chaplain (Reserve) Atlantic Fleet. Served brief periods on ENGAGE, JOHN F. KENNEDY, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, MT. WHITNEY, SHREVEPORT, SHENANDOAH, WASP, PELELIU.

Ran numerous special projects for Navy Chiefs of Chaplains Admirals Trower, Muchow, Holderby, Black and Iasiello. Conducted service first time Jewish worship pennant flown underway on a US Navy ship (MT. WHITNEY.) Requested by Mrs. Eleanor Rickover to be available when Admiral Rickover passed away. Escorted to the Rickover home within ten minutes of his death. Advised her and Admiral Bruce DeMars on arrangements. Officiated at Admiral Rickover's burial. Provided limited editing assistance on his official biography written by Dr. Francis Duncan. Activated on 9/11 and assigned to minister to Pentagon commands who lost personnel in the attack and to the families of the fallen. Only Jewish chaplain, active duty or reserve, from any branch selected to co-officiate in Pentagon's 9/11 Memorial Service held on October 11, 2001. Retired from the Navy in 2002. In fall of 2003 sent for brief period to Iraqi Theater serving NAVCENTCOM in Bahrain and then to Expeditionary Strike Group One embarked on PELELIU off Basra protecting southern pipe lines and pumping station. Only retired Navy chaplain sent to a war zone.

Served brief periods at USNA and Coast Guard Academy. Filled gap as Coast Guard District 7 Staff Chaplain and CINCLANTFLT CHAPLAIN. Additional staff experience: DESRONTWO, DESRONFOUR, SUBRONTWELVE, MATSG90 (Marines), MAG34 (Marines), COMLOGRUTWO, COMREDCOMREGSIX (joint), COMCARGRUEIGHT (twice) and COMSURFLANT,

Navy Schools: Chaplain School Basic Course. Chaplain School Reserve Advanced Course. Twice attended Naval War College Current Strategy Forum, once at the specific invitation of the then President of the War College, Admiral James Service.

Awards: Meritorious Service Medal (2x), Navy Commendation Medal (2x), National Defense Medal (3x) and others. Numerous letters of commendation.

Congregations served: 1976-1980 Congregation Or Ami in Richmond, VA. 1980-2001 Rabbi and Senior Rabbi Temple Shalom, Chevy Chase, MD. 2001-Present Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Shalom. 1983-Present, A founder and board member of the Equal Rights Center, Washington, DC. 2004-08 Served as the ERC Executive Director.

Major Community Activities: Founding Member of Interfaith Social and Legislative Action Group of Virginia, Soviet Jewry Committee of the Washington Board of Rabbis, Chaplaincy Committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, Hebrew Home of Greater Washington Ethics Committee, First Rabbinic Advisor to Jewish Hospice of Montgomery County, Committee on Hate/Violence of Montgomery County, Founding President Jewish People For Righteous Giving.

Received from the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs its 2011 Alfred McKenzie Award. (Additional McKenzie Award recipients, among others: NAACP, Urban League, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton.)

Several published articles.