



**BRIAN M. ROBERTS**

Brian graduated from Ridgedale High School in 1994 and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the United States Air Force Academy in 1998. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force (AF) and began Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) at Laughlin Air Force Base (AFB), TX in October 1998, where he received instruction in the Cessna T-37 “Tweet” jet airplane. After completing Phase I of UPT and selecting the helicopter track, he was off to Fort Rucker, AL where he learned to fly the UH-1H “Huey” helicopter and earned his AF basic pilot wings in February 2000. He received the UPT Academic Training Award upon graduation and was assigned to Minot AFB, ND, where he employed the UH-1N “Twin Huey” in support of Minuteman III Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) security and maintenance operations over an area of 8,500 square miles. During this time, he attended the USAF Advanced Instrument School, Squadron Officer School and upgraded first to Instructor Pilot and then Evaluator, eventually becoming Chief of Squadron Standardization and Evaluation. He was selected for transition to AF Special Operations and the MH-53J/M Pave Low helicopter in the fall of 2003, and after over a year of specialized mission training at Kirtland AFB, arrived at Hurlburt Field, FL in January 2005. From there, he deployed six times to Iraq and was selected as Flight Lead for the final flight/combat mission of six MH-53s before their retirement from the USAF inventory in 2008. One of the aircraft Brian flew in combat is currently on display at the National Museum of the USAF in Dayton, OH. In October 2008, he became a Deputy Director of Operations for the 1st Special Operation Wing’s support squadron and then was selected to be the AF Special Operations Command’s Chief of Senior Leader Management. During this time, he completed Air Command and Staff College via correspondence and was awarded a Masters of Business Administration from Liberty University. Following his time in special operations, he transitioned back into the UH-1N and was sent to Joint Base (JB) Andrews, MD, where he was Deputy Director of the Department of Defense’s largest Airshow, Director of Operations for two squadrons, and finally, Commander of the 1st Helicopter Squadron from 2014-2016. His final assignment was as the Deputy Chief, Training, Test, and Standardization/Evaluation for AF Global Strike Command at Barksdale AFB, LA until his retirement from active duty in 2018. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel and Command Pilot with over 3,000 total flight hours, including 639 combat flight hours.

Brian currently resides south of Morral with his wife Lauren (Hayes), of Huntsville, AL, and two sons Joshua (7) and Luke (8), where he helps part-time on the family farm, homeschools his boys, and looks for ways to serve the community he grew up in.