

It has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve our great state and nation with each of you. Your dedication, support, and uncompromising professionalism are sincerely appreciated. I am humbled by and thankful for your service. Without your support and God's Grace, my greatest opportunities would not have been realized. Know that you will always be a part of me. Good Luck and Godspeed to each of you.

- BG Joe D. Hargett

RETIREMENT CEREMONY

in honor of

BRIGADIER GENERAL
JOE D. HARGETT



JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
THURSDAY
29 AUGUST 2024
2:00 P.M.



BRIGADIER GENERAL JOE D. HARGETT

Brigadier General Joe D. Hargett's last duty assignment with the Mississippi National Guard (MSNG) was as the Assistant Adjutant General – Army, simultaneously serving as the Director of the Joint Staff. In this capacity he was responsible for directing joint operations, formulating, developing, and coordinating all programs, policies, and plans, ensuring mission readiness of the Mississippi National Guard. He also served as the 1st Army Deputy Commanding General for Mobilization at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

BG Hargett has over 37 years of military service, initially enlisting in the MSNG in January 1987 and commissioning through the Mississippi Military Academy in July 1990 as a military police officer. He served in the 112th Military Police Battalion in various positions including a mobilization in support of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

In 1994, BG Hargett became an Army engineer officer, where he served in positions at the platoon to brigade level. He served as Battalion Operations Officer, including a deployment to Iraq in support of the initial push of U.S. forces into Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF I). In 2004, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and served as the Brigade Operations Officer for the 168th Engineer Brigade including missions in support of Hurricane Katrina relief operations. In June 2006, BG Hargett assumed command of the 890th Engineer Battalion. He subsequently deployed to Iraq in 2008, leading his unit's support of OIF 08-10 where they conducted route clearance operations in and around Baghdad and Sadr City, resulting in the 890th being awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation. In 2010, he was reassigned as the Executive Officer and Deputy Commander of the 168th Engineer Brigade in Vicksburg, Mississippi. In October 2012, BG Hargett assumed command of the 168th Engineer Brigade, a position he would hold for three years.

Following brigade command, BG Hargett served at the MSNG Joint Forces Headquarters as the Deputy G3- Mobilization Officer and Joint Intelligence Officer and was later assigned to 66th Troop Command as the Deputy Commander and full-time Administrative Officer. Follow on assignments include service as the G-3, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, and subsequently as the Chief of Staff. In October 2021, he was selected as the Director, Joint Staff of the Mississippi National Guard and promoted to Brigadier General Nov. 15, 2021. His career campaigns include Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Noble Eagle, OIF 1, and OIF 8-10.

BG Hargett has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi, a Master of Business Administration from Jackson State University, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

His military education and training is extensive, including the Air Assault Course, Command and General Staff College, Joint Task Force Commanders Course, Dual Status Commanders Course, U.S. Army War College, NATO Senior Leader Course, the National Defense University Joint Combined Warfighting Course, the Army Strategic Education Program – Basic / Senior Leader Development Course, and the DoD Senior Mission Commanders Course.

BG Hargett's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, two Bronze Star Medals, six Meritorious Service Medals, and numerous other federal and state awards. He has also earned the Combat Action Badge and the German Armed Forces Military Efficiency Badge. He also continues to serve as the Area IV Director on the Board of Directors, National Guard Association of the United States.

Brigadier General Hargett and his wife, Pam, live near Brandon, Mississippi. They have two children, Colby (Heather) Thrash and Kaitlin (Derek) Smith, and three grandchildren, Cora, Greta, and Myra. BG Hargett and Pam attend Broadmoor Baptist Church in Madison, MS.



SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Entrance of the
Official Party

National Anthem

Invocation

Recognition
of Family and
Dignitaries

Service History

Host's Remarks

Awards/Presentations

Spousal Presentation

Retirement

Honoree's Remarks

Benediction

Departure of Official
Party

Reception