

My Last Parade

Let the bugler blow
Let the march be played
With a forming of the troops
For my last parade.

The years of wars and the years of waiting
Obedience to orders, unhesitating
Years in the States and the years overseas
All woven in a web of memories
A lifetime of service passed in review
As many good friends and exotic places, too
In the waning sunlight begin to fade
With the martial music of my last parade.

My last salute to the service and base
Now someone else will take my place
To the sharp young soldiers marching away
I gladly pass the orders of the day
Though uncertain of what my future may hold
Still, if needed - before I grow too old-
I'll keep my saber sharp, my powder dry
Lest I be recalled to duty by and by.

So let the bugle blow
Fire the evening gun
Slowly lower the colors
My retirement has begun.



Retirement Ceremony

Honoring

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT
KEVIN P. McHUGH



5 NOVEMBER 2004

McGUIRE AIR FORCE BASE,
NEW JERSEY

Sequence of Events

Welcome Address

Arrival of Official Party

National Anthem

Invocation

Col Medlin's Remarks

Official Retirement/Presentations

Flag Folding Ceremony

Remarks by SMSgt McHugh

Reception



Biography

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT KEVIN P. MCHUGH

Senior Master Sergeant Kevin P. McHugh is retiring from the United States Air Force after twenty-five years, six months of service.

Born in Aurora, Illinois, he moved to Galatia, Illinois his sophomore year, and graduated from Galatia Community High School in June, 1979. SMSgt McHugh entered Air Force Basic Training in June, 1979 and graduated from the Automatic Flight Control Systems Technician School at Chanute AFB, IL in January, 1980. His first duty assignment was to the 97th Bombardment Wing, Blytheville AFB, Arkansas, where he maintained B-52G and KC-135A aircraft. After only one year he was reassigned to the 601st Tactical Control Wing, Sembach AB, Germany, maintaining CH-53C helicopters. While there, he participated in numerous NATO exercises as well as was flying Presidential support for Ronald Reagan during his visit to Europe for the 1984 Economic Summit and the 40th anniversary of D-Day. Later that year, as a Staff Sergeant, he was reassigned to K.I. Sawyer AFB, MI, to the 410th Bombardment Wing working on B-52H and KC-135A aircraft. During this tour he passed 20 consecutive Quality Assurance evaluations earned Strategic Air Command's prestigious "Master Technician Badge." In 1987, he returned to Germany, this time to the 52nd Tactical Fighter Wing at Spangdahlem AB, where he maintained the F-4G "Wild Weasel." He was promoted to the rank of Technical Sergeant in January 1991, and deployed to Incirlik AB, Turkey for Operation DESERT STORM. In August, he was reassigned to the 60th Air Mobility Wing at Travis AFB, California, maintaining C-5A/B cargo aircraft. He deployed numerous times, most notably to Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Nepal for Operation RESTORE HOPE. He was promoted to Master Sergeant in March 1995, and in August 1996 he was assigned once again to Spangdahlem AB. As Wing Gold Flag Program Manager, his innovative cost saving initiatives were directly responsible for his unit earning the 1999 Air Force Maintenance Effectiveness Award. In August 2001, he was reassigned to the 305th Air Mobility Wing at McGuire AFB, performing duties as Hawk Flight KC-10A Production Superintendent and as Flight Chief. He was promoted to the grade of Senior Master Sergeant in June 2002 and assumed his present position as Lead Production Superintendent, Hawk Aircraft Maintenance Unit, 605th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, in May of 2003. While with the 605th, he led deployments to Ramstein AB, Germany and Al Dhafra AB, United Arab Emirates, for Operations ENDURING and IRAQI FREEDOM. Sergeant McHugh is a graduate of Professional Military Education Phases 1 and 2, the NCO Leadership School, the NCO Academy, and the Senior NCO Academy. His military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Southwest Asia Service Medal with one star device, the Air and Space Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Kuwait Liberation Medal and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with twelve oak leaf clusters and a V device for valor. Sergeant McHugh's education includes an Associates Degree in Avionics Systems Technology from the Community College of the Air Force and a Bachelor's Degree in Professional Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, graduating Cum Laude.

Sergeant McHugh has been married to the former Elisabeth Weiss of Angola, Indiana for the past twenty-two years. They are the proud parents of five children: three daughters; Katerina 17, Theresa 13, Gabriela 3, and two sons; Peter 10, and Matthew 7.

