

Kirsten Jones Shuford

Hailing originally from the Denver, Colorado area, Kirsten received a BA in Political Science and was commissioned as an Ensign, US Navy General Unrestricted Line (1100) from UNC Naval ROTC in 1991. Her first tour saw service as the Assistant Placement Officer, Washington Placement Office, Bureau of Naval Personnel in Washington, DC. In this capacity she worked closely with a variety of Navy detailers and gaining DC



commands to nominate, place and train senior Naval officers into billets on the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Office of the SECDEF, OPNAV and White House Social Aides. Having always wanted to serve in intelligence, she completed the Navy Intelligence Officer Basic Course at Dam Neck in 1993, with follow-on orders to the National Security Agency at Ft Meade, Maryland. At NSA she served as the Division Officer for a joint cryptologic operations and analysis team, including Navy Cryptologic Technicians (CT linguists and signals). In this position she was also able to put her background in Russian language to use.

After four years of active duty, Kirsten transitioned to the civilian world and married fellow UNC Navy ROTC alumni Mac Shuford (1992); over the next decade, the Shufords would PCS from Mississippi to San Diego to Jacksonville, FL to Fort Worth, TX to Washington DC. While in Jacksonville, Kirsten earned a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Florida (1998); in Texas, she worked as a Management Analyst for the City of Fort Worth. Upon arriving back in the Washington DC area in 2003, Kirsten dove back into national security and intelligence work. Since 2004, she has served as an analyst with the Criminal Division of the FBI; as an Intelligence Program Evaluator with the US Department of Defense Inspector General; and as a technical targeter with the Central Intelligence Agency, both as a government civilian and a contractor. Kirsten retired from CACI in June 2022 as a Lead Targeting Officer/Analyst, having spent her final five years supporting a CWMD (Counter Weapons of Mass Destruction) mission, among other surge efforts. During this time, Kirsten also earned a certificate in Forensic Accounting from Georgetown University's School of Continuing Studies.

Kirsten is a Life Member of the UNC NROTC Alumni Association, and she, Mac and their two now-grown children Haley and Jack have enjoyed many Tar Heel Navy reunions, pig pickins and football games over the years. (Frankly Kirsten and Mac are just happy to attend football games without having to clean the stadium at 0630 the next morning 😊). Kirsten looks forward to supporting both alumni and current midshipmen in the Tarheel Navy.