



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL STEPHEN K. DONALDSON

Colonel Stephen “Keith” Donaldson is the Vice Commander of the 59th Medical Wing, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, whose mission is to provide deployed and home station health care, graduate medical education and clinical research to enhance Air Force mission readiness. This is the Air Force’s largest medical wing composed of six groups across the \$1.2 billion San Antonio Military Health System, Joint Base San Antonio, supporting more than 240,000 beneficiaries with more than 6,000 military and civilian personnel, residents and students.



In 1986, Colonel Donaldson graduated with a Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing from Armstrong State College, Savannah, Georgia and began his nursing career as a staff nurse in the Neurological Intensive Care Unit at Savannah’s St. Joseph’s Hospital. In February 1991, Colonel Donaldson began his military nursing career as he accepted a direct commission into the USAF Nurse Corps as a First Lieutenant. He was assigned to Strategic Air Command’s Robert L. Thompson Strategic Hospital, Carswell AFB, Texas where he worked as a staff nurse on medical-surgical and intensive care inpatient units. Over the past 25 years, Colonel Donaldson’s experiences have covered a wide spectrum of medical operations and leadership positions, including, but not limited to, inpatient, intensive care, outpatient, aeromedical evacuation, academia, population health, executive officer, Air Force-level readiness program monitor, MAJCOM staff officer, and command at the section, squadron and group level. Prior to his current assignment, Colonel Donaldson served as the Commander, 959th Medical Group, San Antonio, TX.

EDUCATION

- 1982 Associate in Arts, Seminole Community College, Sanford, FL
- 1986 Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Armstrong State College, Savannah, GA
- 1995 Squadron Officer School, Residence
- 1996 Masters of Science in Nursing Administration, Georgia College and Atlantic University, Milledgeville, GA
- 2001 Air Command and Staff College, Correspondence
- 2006 Air War College, Correspondence
- 2007 Intermediate Executive Skills Course, Sheppard AFB, TX
- 2011 Lean for Healthcare Operations Course, San Antonio, TX
- 2013 Interagency Institute for Federal Healthcare Executives, Washington, DC

2014 Military Health System Capstone Course, Washington, DC

ASSIGNMENTS

Feb 1991 – Jun 1993 Staff Nurse, Special Care Unit, Robert L. Thompson Strategic Hospital, Carswell AFB, TX

Jun 1993 – Jun 1996 Nurse Manager, Family Practice/Acute Care Clinics; Staff Nurse, Medical-Surgical Inpatient Unit, 78th Medical Group, Robins AFB, GA

Jun 1996 – May 1999 Chief, Aircrew Scheduling; Chief, Mission Plan/Launch; Instructor Flight Nurse, 86th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Ramstein AB, GE

May 1999 – Apr 2002 Director, Battlefield Nursing Course; Associate Director, Flight Nurse Course, USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks AFB, TX

Apr 2002 – May 2003 Squadron Section Commander, USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks AFB, TX

May 2003 – Jun 2005 Health Care Integrator, 72nd Medical Group, Tinker AFB, OK

Jun 2005 – Jun 2006 Executive Officer to the Assistant Surgeon General, Medical Force Development and Nursing Services, HQ AF, Bolling AFB, DC

Jun 2006 – Jul 2007 Program Element Monitor, Expeditionary Operations, Air Force Medical Operations Agency, HQ AF, Bolling AFB, DC

Jul 2007 – Jul 2009 Commander, 51st Medical Operations Squadron, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea

Jul 2009 – Aug 2010 Deputy Chief, Aeromedical Evacuation Clinical Operations and Patient Safety; Deputy Command Nurse, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, IL

Sep 2010 – Jun 2011 Commander, 18th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Japan

Jul 2011 – Sep 2012 Commander, 95th Medical Group, Edwards AFB, CA

Oct 2012 – Jul 2014 Commander, 412th Medical Group, Edwards AFB, CA

Jul 2014 – Aug 2016 Director, Air Force Nursing Services and Chief, Officer Force Development Division, HQ USAF, Falls Church, VA

Aug 2016 – Jun 2018 Commander, 959th Medical Group, Joint Base San Antonio – Ft. Sam Houston, TX

Jun 2018 – Present Vice Commander, 59th Medical Wing, Joint Base San Antonio – Lackland, TX

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit
Meritorious Service Medal (Six Oak Leaf Clusters)
Aerial Achievement Medal
Air Force Commendation Medal (Two Oak Leaf Clusters)
Air Force Achievement Medal
Army Achievement Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

First Lieutenant	20 Feb 1991
Captain	20 Nov 1992
Major	1 Dec 2001
Lieutenant Colonel	1 Apr 2006
Colonel	1 Feb 2011

(Current as of June 2018)