

## AIR FORCE SONG

Off we go into the wild blue yonder

Climbing high into the sun

Here they come zooming to meet

our thunder

At' em boys Give'er the gun!

(Give'er the gun hey!)

Down we dive, spouting our flames

from under

Off with one helluva roar!

We live in fame or go down in flame.

Hey!

Nothing will stop the US Air Force!

## WELCOME TO THE RETIREMENT CEREMONY HONORING

MAJOR GENERAL  
BARRY A. BLANCHARD



172ND AIRLIFT WING  
141 MILITARY DRIVE  
BLDG 237  
JACKSON, MS 39202  
SATURDAY  
3 AUGUST 2024  
10:00 A.M.



## MAJOR GENERAL BARRY A. BLANCHARD

Maj. Gen. Barry A. Blanchard's last duty assignment with the Mississippi National Guard was the Assistant Adjutant General – Air and Commander, Mississippi Air National Guard (MSANG). In this capacity, he was responsible for directing Air National Guard operations formulating, developing, and coordinating all programs, policies, and plans ensuring

the mission readiness of the 172nd Airlift Wing, 186th Air Refueling Wing, and the Combat Readiness Training Center.

General Blanchard was commissioned through the U.S. Air Force Academy in May 1992. He attended undergraduate pilot training at Columbus Air Force Base and received his wings in August 1993. He then attended graduate school at Texas A&M University earning a Master of Science degree in December 1994. He served 11 years on active duty as a C-17A instructor/evaluator in the Air Mobility Command and the Air Education and Training Command, before joining the MSANG.

General Blanchard has spent the last 21 years of his military career with the MSANG and has held command at the squadron, group, and wing levels. As a command/evaluator pilot with more than 4,400 hours in the C-17A, Blanchard participated and deployed in support of Operations Southern Watch, Allied Force, Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, and New Dawn. He served two tours as the director of mobility forces supporting domestic hurricane relief and served as the dual-status commander, Joint Task Force Mississippi, supporting COVID operations across the state. Prior to his last position as ATAG-Air, Blanchard was the chief of staff for the MSANG at Joint Force Headquarters in Jackson.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2 OLC), Air Medal (2 OLC), Aerial Achievement Medal, Air and Space Commendation Medal (1 OLC), Air and Space Outstanding Unit Award (9th Award), Air and Space Organizational Excellence Award, Combat Readiness Medal (3 OLC), Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal (4 OLC), National Defense Medal (1 SS), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Air and Space Expeditionary Service Ribbon, Air Force Command Pilot Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, and numerous other federal and state awards.

General Blanchard and his wife, Judy, live in Madison, Mississippi and are the proud parents of two children, Jacob and Jessica.



## SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Entrance of the  
Official Party

National Anthem

Invocation

Recognition  
of Family and  
Dignitaries

Service History

Host's Remarks  
MG Janson Boyles  
*Adjutant General*

Awards/Presentations

Spousal Presentation

Retirement

Honorees Remarks

Benediction

Departure of Official  
Party

Reception