



David W. Kunkel, Rear Admiral USCG (Ret.)
 “Dave”

Date of Birth: 16 August 1949 in Allentown, PA.

Date of Designation: 31 October 1975
 Coast Guard Aviator #1726

Dates of Active Duty: 7 June 1971 – 1 July 2008

Total Flight Hours: 5,000 Fixed wing: 1,000 Helo: 4,000

Aviation Commands:
 Coast Guard Air Station Astoria, Oregon 1994-1997

Military Awards:
 Distinguished Flying Cross – Night rescue of 3 people from the S/V SPINDRIFT offshore Humbolt Bay, California 1983
 CG Distinguished Service Medal – 1
 Defense Superior Service Medal - 1
 Legion of Merit - 3
 Meritorious Service Medal – 3
 Coast Guard Achievement Medal

Education:
 1967 - Parkland High School, Orefield, PA.
 1971 - B.S. Kutztown State College, Kutztown, PA.
 1988 - MBA - National University, San Diego, CA.
 1993 - Department of Transportation Fellow, Wash. D.C.

Duty Assignment Chronology

07/71-01/73 Enlisted Seaman, Cape May, NJ.
 01/73-09/74 Ensign, Captain of the Port, Kodiak, AK.
 09/74-10/75 Basic Flight Training, Pensacola, FL.
 Student Naval Aviator. VT-1, VT-2, HT-8, HT-18.
 11/75-07/79 Aviator C.G. Air Station New Orleans, LA.
 07/79-07/81 Aviator/Maintenance Officer C.G. Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico.



07/81-07/85 Aviator/Engineering Officer C.G. Air Station Astoria, OR.
 07/85-07/88 Aviator/Engineering Officer C.G. Air Station San Diego, CA.
 07/88-07/91 Aviator/Engineering Officer C.G. Air Station Clearwater, FL.
 07/91-07/94 Coast Guard Headquarters – Assistant Chief Aeronautical Engineering Division.
 07/94-08/97 Commanding Officer, C.G. Air Station Astoria, OR.
 08/97-07/98 Coast Guard Headquarters - Chief Aeronautical Engineering Division.
 07/98-07/00 Coast Guard Headquarters – Chief Aviation Forces.
 07/00-07/01 Pacific Area Chief of CG Operations, Alameda, CA.
 07/01-05/02 Pacific Area Chief of Staff, Alameda, CA.
 05/02-07/04 PACOM’s Director Joint Interagency Task Force West, Alameda, CA.
 07/04-07/06 Coast Guard Headquarters - Chief of Capabilities.
 07/06-08/08 Commander CG District Seven and Director of Homeland Security Task Force Southeast, Miami, FL.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) Ancient Albatross #20, 07/06 - 07/08 (C.G. aviator on active duty holding earliest date of designation).
- (2) Besides flying the Navy flight training aircraft in Pensacola (T-34B, T-28, TH-57, UH-1), I also flew the Coast Guard HH-3F, HH-65, HH-60J, and the HU-25.
- (3) Aircraft Commander of HH-3F helicopter during the Cuban Mariel Boatlift - 05/80. Safely hoisted 22 Cubans from a sinking boat and transferred them to NAS Key West, FL.

Summary of Significant Career Events continued

- (4) S/V SPINDRIFT - H-3 helicopter night rescue of 3 from sinking sailing vessel offshore CA. 09/83 – awarded Distinguished Flying Cross.
- (5) OPBAT - Operation Bahamas Turks and Caicos - helicopter counter drug interdiction operations in the Caribbean, 07/88 - 07/91 flying H-3 helicopters from Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater, FL.
- (6) Coast Guard Headquarter's project lead in arming CG helicopters to counter drug smuggler go-fast vessels. Established HITRON-10 (Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron 10). 01/97.
- (7) PACOM's Director of the Joint Interagency Task Force West (JIATF-West) – counter-narcotics task force. 05/02-07/04 Alameda, CA.
- (8) Commander CG District Seven and Director of Homeland Security Task Force Southeast – Interagency task force to deter a mass migration into the U.S.; Headquartered in Miami, FL.

Personal

- (1) Married Sue, my high school sweetheart, August 29, 1970. And after 37 years on active duty, and 18 PCS moves, in 2008, we retired back to our home town in Pennsylvania.
- (2) We have a daughter, Lisa Kunkel McGinty. One grandson, Conor David McGinty and, of course, our Son-in-Law, Sean Patrick McGinty.
- (3) Drove my car across country (PCS) 9 times. Visited all 50 states. Touched all 7 continents. Was fortunate to visit the South Pole.
- (4) I continue to stay active by riding my bike, flying (day VFR only), and hacking away at golf.