

## MAJOR GENERAL MARK ATKINSON

*Warren High School Class of 1977*



Mark Atkinson is a 1977 graduate of Warren High School where he participated in football, wrestling and baseball. During his senior year he served as Student Council President and was inducted into the National Honor Society.

Major General Mark A. Atkinson is the Director of Logistics, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

General Atkinson entered the Air Force in 1982 as an ROTC graduate of Ohio University. He is a career logistics officer having commanded two squadrons, a maintenance group, and an air logistics center maintenance wing. He has held staff assignments at Strategic Air Command, Air Education and Training Command, Air Force Material Command, Air Force Personnel Center, Air Combat Command, and the Air Staff.

He deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom serving as a logistics adviser to CENTAF. Prior to his current assignment, he was the Director of Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

Education: Ohio University - BS in Education, US Air Force - ROTC, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University - MS in Aeronautical Science, The Air War College - MS in Strategic Studies, Syracuse University - National Security Fellowship, University of Virginia - Enterprise Leadership



Major awards and decorations: Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Force commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal.

General Atkinson notes, "I often refer to my time at Warren High School in speeches and at civic events. I've recounted how our football and wrestling coach, Mr. Moore, instilled in us an attitude of perseverance. His encouragement challenged us to achieve more than we personally thought we were capable of achieving. Senior English teacher, Mrs. Cowell, spent time talking about reaching our individual full potential. She inspired us to step away from the crowd and be leaders vice followers. I've used her words on many occasions while counseling young people in their quest for personal and professional success. Mr. Scragg, our American History teacher, was a constant source of inspiration with his many ties, his patriotic attitude, and his ability to relate history in a way that intrigued me even when my young mind was focused on other things. These teachers (and others) taught me personal courage, leadership, and patriotism that I've carried with me literally around the globe in places such as the Pentagon and even through the streets of Baghdad."

Other activities and community involvement include: youth sports coach, Sunday School teacher, church deacon, president and vice president local chapters of the National Logistics Association, member National Military Officers Association, Habitat for Humanity volunteer, American Cancer Society and March for the Cure organizer, advisor/mentor Junior Executive Council.