

Speaker's Biography for Kurt A. Sanftleben



Kurt A. Sanftleben was commissioned in the United States Army Medical Service Corps in 1974 as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Michigan State University. He holds a doctorate from the College of William and Mary with a concentration in Higher Education and a cognate in Business Administration; he has also completed extensive graduate work in Library Science and the Humanities. Kurt is a graduate of the National Defense University and the Army Command and General Staff College. He completed the Army Logistics Executive Development Program and was certified by the American Logistics Association as a physical distribution manager.

Kurt spent half of his military career in three different combat divisions: the 2nd Armored Division, the 3rd Mechanized Infantry Division, and 7th Light Infantry Division. In them, he served as a platoon leader in an infantry battalion, the commander of two medical companies, and the commander of a provisional logistics support battalion during deployments to and operations within both Europe and American desert training facilities. He also served as the director of materiel management for the flagship military health care facility, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where he was recognized for exceptional stewardship of annual budgets exceeding \$40 million (over \$175 million in 2018 dollars). As the senior medical

operations and logistics officer at the U. S. Army III Corps and the U. S. Atlantic Command, Kurt planned, coordinated, and controlled the medical aspects of ashore and afloat deployments, exercises, and operations in Europe, the North Atlantic, the Caribbean, Central America, and the Middle East. His final military assignment was at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences where he directed intensive field medical exercises for Army, Navy, Air Force, and Public Health Service medical students. His military awards include the Legion of Merit and the Expert Field Medical Badge.

Upon retiring from active duty in 1994, Kurt was instrumental in establishing Virginia's highly successful state-wide residential high school dropout recovery program, Commonwealth Challenge, at Virginia Beach where he then supervised its daily operations to include admissions, academics, residential services, counseling, business processes, and follow-on mentor support. During this same period, Kurt served as a consultant to the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Public Health Service, the National Disaster Medical System, and the Joint Staff.

Kurt became the Director of the Marine Corps Research Center in 1998 and developed systems to provide worldwide reference support to Marine Corps commands, educational support services to all levels within the Marine Corps professional education system, and research assistance to support the development of emerging concepts, doctrine, strategy, and tactics. He directed the operations of the Library of the Marine Corps, the U. S. Marine Corps Archives and Special Collections, and the Marine Corps Conference Center. As a secondary duty, Kurt served as the Vice-President for Research and Instructional Support at the Marine Corps University and played a key role in all initiatives, processes, and decisions related to accreditation, strategic planning, resource allocation, instructional technology, and institutional research. He retired from federal civilian service in 2012.

Kurt has been a rare book and paper dealer for many years and is a member of the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America. He has completed a number of courses in the book arts and the history of the book from Harvard University and the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia where he received a proficiency certificate in 2015. He is also a member of the Certified Appraisers' Guild of America and the American Stamp Dealers' Association.

He is a Member Emeritus of the College of William and Mary School of Education Dean's Council, a Past-President of the Association of 1775, a Past-Chairman of the Southeast Chapter of the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America, a Life Member of the National Eagle Scout Association, a Life Member of the Michigan State University Alumni Association, a Life Member of the College of William and Mary Alumni Association, a Veteran Companion of the Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States, and a former Member of Kappa Delta Pi, the International Honorary Society in Education.