



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT WALTER ZELEZNIAK JR

CMSgt Walter Zelezniak Jr is the Command Chief Master Sergeant at the 147th Attack Wing, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base (JRB), Houston, Texas. In this position Chief Zelezniak is the senior enlisted leader in the wing. He is responsible for advising the commander on mission effectiveness, professional development, military readiness, training, utilization, health, morale, and welfare of the wing's enlisted personnel.

Chief Zelezniak enlisted in the Air Force in May 1981. Upon graduating from Basic Military Training School he went to Keesler AFB, Miss. for Aircraft Communications Systems Specialist technical school. Upon graduation in April 1982, Chief Zelezniak was assigned to the 15th Air Base Wing, Hickam AFB, Hawaii. In August 1985 Chief Zelezniak ended his four year active duty career to go to college full time. In July 1986 Chief Zelezniak joined the Texas Air National Guard as a member of the then 147th Fighter Interceptor Group. During his career with the 147th Attack Wing Chief Zelezniak has worked in different capacities in the Maintenance Group to include Avionics Specialist, Avionics NCOIC, Quality Assurance Superintendent, and Chief Enlisted Manager. During his career Chief Zelezniak has worked on a variety of aircraft to include C-130s, HH-53Cs, T-33A, F-4s, F-16A/Cs, MQ-1s, and MQ-9s. Chief Zelezniak has deployed twice in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, and has deployed once for Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, INHERENT RESOLVE and ATLANTIC RESOLVE. Chief Zelezniak has been the NCOIC of the 147th Reconnaissance Wing's Exercise and Evaluation Team, served a tour at the Air National Guard Readiness Center as the Remotely Piloted Aircraft Maintenance Liaison, been assigned to 12 aircraft maintenance inspection teams at the request of the Air National Guard Readiness Center, and was asked to perform four command directed investigations. Additionally, Chief Zelezniak has twice served as the President of the 147 ATKW Chiefs' Council. Prior to assuming his current position he served as the Quality Assurance Superintendent of the 147th Maintenance Group, Ellington Field JRB, Texas.



EDUCATION

- 1984 Noncommissioned Officer Orientation Course, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii
- 1993 Associate of Applied Science Degree, Avionics Systems Technology, Community College of the Air Force
- 1996 Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 1999 Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2009 Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education, Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va., by correspondence
- 2010 Air National Guard Chief's Executive Course, Joint Base Andrews, Md.
- 2011 Contemporary Base Issues Course, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, Texas
- 2013 Bachelors of Science Degree in Business Administration, Columbia College, Columbia, Mo.
- 2015 4 Lenses Course, Ellington Field JRB, Texas
- 2016 Masters of Business Administration, Southern New Hampshire University
- 2017 Executive Leadership Cyber Security Training, University of Texas at San Antonio
- 2017 Defense Support of Civil Authorities Phase 1 Course, Joint Knowledge Online, by correspondence
- 2017 Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education II, Joint Knowledge Online, by correspondence
- 2018 Continuous Process Improvement for Executives, Institute for Defense and Business, Univ of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2018 Air National Guard Command Chief Orientation Course, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas
- 2019 United States Air Force Command Chief Master Sergeant Training Course, Joint Base Andrews, Md.

- 2019 TAG Leadership Development Course, Camp Mabry, Texas
2019 Air Force Enterprise Leadership Seminar, Kenan-Flagler Business School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2021 Emerging Technologies Seminar: Technology and the New Strategic Framework, Alan F. Freed Associates, Alexandria Old Town, Va.
2021 Leading Strategically, Center for Creative Leadership, by correspondence

ASSIGNMENTS

1. August 1981 – September 1981, Student, Basic Military Training, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
2. September 1981 – April 1982, Student, Technical Training School, Keesler AFB, Miss.
3. April 1982 – August 1985, Aircraft Communications Specialist, 15th Avionics Squadron, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
4. July 1986 – October 2002, Avionics Systems Specialist, 147th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, Texas (October 2000 – November 2000, Avionics Systems Specialist, Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; June 2002, Avionics Specialist, Israel)
5. October 2002 – October 2005, Avionics Systems Specialist NCOIC, 147th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Ellington Field JRB, Texas (August 2005 – September 2005, Avionics Systems Specialist NCOIC, Balad AB, Iraq)
6. October 2005 – December 2013, Quality Assurance Superintendent, 147th Maintenance Group, Ellington Field JRB, Texas (April 2007 – May 2007, Safety Supervisor, Balad AB, Iraq)
7. December 2013 – December 2016, Chief Enlisted Manager, 147th Maintenance Group, Ellington Field JRB, Texas (August 2014 – November 2014, Maintenance Superintendent, Incirlik AB, Turkey; August 2015 – September 2015, Maintenance Superintendent, Lielvarde AB, Latvia)
8. December 2016 – December 2017, Quality Assurance Superintendent, 147th Maintenance Group, Ellington Field JRB, Texas
9. January 2018 – Present, Command Chief Master Sergeant, 147th Attack Wing, Ellington Field JRB, Texas

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster
Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster
Air Force Achievement Medal
Texas Outstanding Service Medal
Texas Medal of Merit with bronze acorn

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

1996 147th Fighter Wing Noncommissioned Officer of Year, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, Texas

OCCUPATIONAL BADGES

Master Maintenance Badge

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

National Guard Association of Texas, Life Member
147th Ace in the Hole Retirees Association, Life Member
Air Force Sergeants Association, Life Member
Air National Guard Command Chief (ANG CCM) Alumni Association, Life Member

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Airman, Feb. 18, 1982
Airman First Class, Aug. 18, 1982
Senior Airman, Dec. 11, 1983
Staff Sergeant, Jan. 1, 1991
Technical Sergeant, Oct. 1, 1994
Master Sergeant, June 3, 2000
Senior Master Sergeant, March 18, 2005
Chief Master Sergeant, Aug. 27, 2009

(CURRENT AS OF MAY 2021)