Kathryn (Kat) Kirkman Biography

Kathryn (Kat) Kirkman is a fourth-generation military veteran following both of her parents, grandfather, and great-grandmother into service. She graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 2011 with a Bachelor's Degree in Astronautical Engineering. During her career in the Air Force, Kat served as an engineer, pilot, and officer, flying over 40 combat missions in enemy airspace in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Enduring Freedom (OEF) during two deployments to Southwest Asia.

After her service, Kat earned a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania. Her career as a social worker has spanned child welfare, education, research, policy, and veteran services. For the past two years, she served as the Director of Military and Veterans Affairs for Congressman Dwight Evans (PA-03), where she worked directly with veterans and their families. In this role, she successfully secured nearly a million dollars in benefits for veterans from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Kat is now excited to further her mission of supporting veterans as the Program Manager for the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program at the Veterans Multi-Service Center.

In her spare time, Kat is actively involved in a number of organizations including serving on the VA Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion's Veterans Community Advisory Board and the Service Academy Selection Board for Congresswoman Scanlon. She is also the Veteran Coordinator for Homecoming 250 and co-founder of the women veterans' group, Sisters in Wellness.

Kat is married to her high school sweetheart, David, who has been her steadfast supporter throughout her journey at the Air Force Academy, her active-duty service, and her continuing dedication to serving fellow veterans.