

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Leardi

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Leardi graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from James Madison University in 1993 and was subsequently commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery. He later earned a Masters of Military Arts and Sciences in History from the US Army Command and General Staff College in 2006.

His professional education includes the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Aviation Officer Advanced Course, Combined Arms Service and Staff School, Information Systems Management Course and the Command and General Staff College.

LTC Leardi's first assignment was with 2nd Armored Division (later reflagged to 4th Infantry Division) at Fort Hood, Texas where he served as a Platoon Fire Direction Officer, Platoon Leader, Company Fire Support Officer and Battalion Fire Support Officer. After completion of the Advanced Course, he served with 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division in Schweinfurt, Germany as a Battalion Fire Support Officer, Assistant Operations Officer, and Battery Commander; then, as Squadron Fire Support Officer for 1-4 CAV. He next served as Automation Management Officer for Headquarters, Combined Arms Support Command at Fort Lee, Virginia. Following graduation from the Command and General Staff College, he served with 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division in Baumholder, Germany as Brigade Fire Support Officer, Battalion Operations Officer, and Brigade Fire Support Coordinator. LTC Leardi most recently served as Special Assistant to the Commander, United States Army Europe in Heidelberg, Germany.

His operational assignments include deployment to Kosovo in 1999 and three deployments to Iraq in 2004, 2006 and 2008.

LTC Leardi's military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, the GWOT Expeditionary and Service Medals, the NATO Medal, Parachutist Badge, and the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge. He is married to his best friend, Joan and they have two children.