

Brigadier General Richard A. Wholey

Deputy Commanding General, 263rd Army Air Missile Defense Command



Brigadier General Richard A. Wholey Jr. began his military career as a Private in the Army Reserves, in Granite City, Illinois. After completing Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Lee, Virginia he moved to South Carolina. He was assigned to Company C, 391st Engineering Battalion in Spartanburg, South Carolina. He graduated from Clemson University in May 1995, commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

After graduating from the Signal Corps Officer Basic Course in December 1995, he was assigned to the 151st Signal Battalion, South Carolina Army National Guard. He held numerous positions within the 151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion (ESB) to include Platoon Leader, Executive Officer, S1, S3, Company and Battalion Commander. As the Company Commander for Company C, 151st ESB, he deployed the unit to Kuwait from February 2003 to May

2004 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, assigned to the 11th and 7th Signal Brigades. As the Battalion Commander, he deployed the Battalion from July 2010 to July 2011 across four countries in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, and Enduring Freedom. BG Wholey served multiple positions with the 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade, South Carolina Army National Guard, culminated as the Deputy Brigade Commander. BG Wholey transitioned to the 263rd Army and Air Missile Defense Command in June 2014 as the Deputy Chief of Staff – G6. He assumed Command of the 678th Air Defense Artillery Brigade in May 2016 and deployed to U.S. Army Europe as Commander of Task Force Vanguard, February to December 2018. He relinquished Command and transitioned to the 263rd Army and Air Missile Defense Command Chief of Staff in April 2019. BG Wholey is currently dual-hatted, serving as the 263d AAMDC Deputy Commanding General, and DCG-ARNG for Air Defense Artillery at the Fires Center of Excellence, Ft. Sill, Oklahoma.

BG Wholey's military education includes the Signal Officer Basic and Advanced courses, the Combined Arms Services Staff School, the Command and General Staff College - Intermediate Level Education (ILE), the Contracting Officer Representatives Course, the Advanced Operations Course, the Air Defense Artillery Transition Course, the Dual Status Commanders course, the U.S. Army War College Fellowship at the University of Texas in Austin, and the Army Strategic Education Program-Basic and Command Course, Force Integration for Senior Leaders, and the Combined Forces Air Component Commanders Course. His civilian education includes a Bachelors Degree in Industrial Engineering from Clemson University and a Masters in Computer Resource Management from Webster University.

BG Wholey's military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Combat Action Badge, and the Master Space Badge, among others.

BG Wholey is married to the former Marilyn J. Pelletier of Norwich, Connecticut. They have one son named Richard (Trey) A. Wholey III. He is employed by Michelin Tire Corporation and they currently reside in Anderson, South Carolina.