

BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

56 FW/HC
13968 W. Shooting Star St.
Luke AFB, AZ 85309

CHAPLAIN, CAPT, RICHARD A. TATUM I

Chaplain Richard A. Tatum I is a Protestant Chaplain at Luke AFB, Ariz., and serves as the primary pastor of the Luke Gospel Worship Service. He also serves as the supervisor for 2 contractors and coordinates ministry of more than 50 volunteers. Chaplain Advisor: Protestant Youth of the Chapel. Provides visitation to the 56th Maintenance Group, including the Maintenance Group Command Section, 56th Maintenance Operations Squadron, 56th Component Maintenance Squadron, 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron and 56th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and 756th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; as well as for the 607th Air Control Squadron. Provides worship, pastoral care, and religious rites to military, family members, civilians and contractors of Luke.



Chaplain Tatum has 14 ½ years of enlisted experience with the Air Force in avionics and public affairs career fields. He entered basic training in November 1983 and eventually came on active duty in February 1986. He received his commission as a 2nd Lt, Chaplain Candidate, in February 1998. In March 2001, he received his appointment as a Chaplain and re-entered active duty in July 2002. He is endorsed by Chaplaincy Full Gospel Churches.

Chaplain Tatum accepted his calling to the preaching ministry in September 1986. He and his wife, the former Leona Green-Hill, have three children: Richard II, Ashley and Jeanetta, and three grandchildren: Xiana (pronounced C-Anna), Richard III and Amon.

EDUCATION

1981 Diploma, El Dorado High School, El Dorado, Ark.
1998 Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Regents College, Albany, N.Y.
2000 Master of Divinity, Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas
2005 Enrolled in distance education Doctorate of Ministry degree in Biblical Counseling, Trinity College and Theological Seminary, Newburgh, Ind.

AIR FORCE PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION & TRAINING

1984 Graduated Weapons Control Systems Mechanic Course, Lowry AFB, Colo.
1985 Graduated Basic PA Journalism Course, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
1985 Completed NCO Orientation Course (correspondence)
1988 Completed NCO Preparatory Course— Honor Graduate, San Vito AS, Italy
1989 Completed PA Editor's Course, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
1990 Completed PA Supervisor Course, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.

- 1991 Earned Associate of Applied Science in Public Affairs, Community College of the Air Force, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 1992 Completed Public Communications Short Course, Oklahoma University, Norman, Okla.
- 1995 Completed NCO Academy (correspondence)
- 1998 Officer Training School – Distinguished Graduate, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2002 Basic Chaplain Course – Distinguished Graduate, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2004 Squadron Office School – Correspondence

ASSIGNMENTS

1. November 1983 - January 1984, trainee, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
2. January 1984 - May 1984, student, Weapons Control Systems Course for F4-D aircraft, 51st Student Training Squadron, Lowry Technical Training Center, Lowry AFB, Colo.
3. June 1984 - April 1985, apprentice and specialist for F4-D aircraft, 301st Tactical Fighter Wing, Carswell Air Force Base, Texas
4. May 1985 - July 1985, student, Basic PA Journalism Course, Defense Information School, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
5. July 1985 - January 1986, apprentice and technician, 301st Tactical Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office, Carswell Air Force Base, Texas
6. February 1986 - July 1987, staff writer and interim editor, 3415th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office, Lowry Technical Training Center Public Affairs Office, Lowry Air Force Base, Colo.
7. July 1987 - February 1988, apprentice, community relations division, 3415th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office, Lowry Technical Training Center Public Affairs Office, Lowry Air Force Base, Colo.
8. March 1988 - August 1989, editor and media relations specialist, 7275th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office, San Vito dei Normanni Air Station, Italy
9. September 1989 to September 1990, media and community relations specialist, 7275th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office, San Vito dei Normanni Air Station, Italy
10. September 1990 - June 1991, NCO in charge, 7275th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office, San Vito dei Normanni Air Station, Italy.
11. June 1991 - June 1994, staff writer, media and internal relations chief, and interim NCO in charge, Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center Public Affairs Office, (Air Force Element) Presidio of Monterey, Calif.
12. July 1994 - October 1996, NCO in charge and media relations chief, 71st Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Vance Air Force Base, Okla.
13. November - December 1996, staff writer, 51st Fighter Wing, Osan Air Base, Korea
14. December 1996 - February 1998, NCO in charge, 71st Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Vance Air Force Base, Okla.
15. February 1998 – March 2001, Chaplain Candidate, 9017th ARS/HC (ARPC), Denver, Colo.
16. March 2001 – June 2002, IMA Chaplain, 82nd Training Wing, Sheppard AFB, Texas.
17. July 2002 – August 2003, Protestant Chaplain, 28th Bomb Wing, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.
18. August 2003 – July 2007, Protestant Chaplain, 18th Wing, Kadena AB, Japan.
19. July 2007 – Present, Protestant Chaplain, 56th Fighter Wing, Luke AFB, Ariz.

DEPLOYMENTS

- May 2004 – September 2004, Protestant Chaplain, Tallil AB, Iraq

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Joint Service Commendation Medal
Air Force Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters
Joint Service Achievement Medal
Air Force Achievement Medal
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with four oak leaf clusters
Air Force Good Conduct Medal with three oak leaf clusters
National Defense Service Ribbon with bronze star
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
Air Force Overseas Ribbon (Long)
Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with silver leaf clusters
Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon
Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon
USAF NCO Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon
Air Force Training Ribbon with one oak leaf cluster

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Airman First Class	February 2, 1986
Senior Airman	June 2, 1988
Sergeant	June 1, 1989
Staff Sergeant	January 1, 1990
Technical Sergeant	January 1, 1998
Second Lieutenant	February 28, 1998
First Lieutenant	March 14, 2000
Captain	September 4, 2002

(Current as of May 2009)