

**Colonel Otto J. Rutt** epitomizes the image of the soldier-scholar, but beyond his achievements



of economist, aviator, and warrior stands a man of devotion – to God, his country, his friends, his family, his ideals, and all humanity. As a Marine Corps officer and fighter pilot, he has served two combat tours, one in the 1991 Persian Gulf War and one in Operation Iraqi Freedom II in 1994. He currently holds the billet of senior Marine Corps member to the Defense Human Capital Strategy Program Executive Office. He has been decorated with numerous awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal, The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Selected Marine Corps Reserve Medal, the Seas Service Deployment

Ribbon, and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal. As a Fenwick student, Rutt was engrossed in football. As he tells it, “if I wasn’t studying, I was training. I loved it. During the season, it dominated my waking existence. I loved the anticipation of game week, the pep rallies, the team Mass, the whole struggle; I was mesmerized and energized.” Yet, despite his attachment to football, he managed to balance sports with academics, earning acceptance to Harvard. Following his graduation from Fenwick in 1979, he matriculated to Harvard and in three years earned an economics degree. He went into the Marine Corps in 1982 and became an F/A-18 pilot. In 1992, he worked as a commodity futures and options broker with Goldman Sachs and later with The First National Bank of Chicago. He attended the University of Chicago, where in 1993 he received an MBA with dual concentrations of Finance and Business Policy. By 2000, he began a stint as commercial airline pilot while also serving as a Marine Reserve Officer. In 2006 he was promoted to the rank of Colonel and received the distinction of “honor graduate” from the Air War College. He currently holds the position of Senior Marine Advisor.