



Lieutenant Colonel Thomas (Tom) Austin – Commander, 54th Engineer Battalion

Lieutenant Colonel Austin was born in Muskegon, MI. He was commissioned in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in April 1994. Prior to his assignment as Commander of the 54th Engineer Battalion, LTC Austin served as a Plans Officer, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C.

His previous assignments include: Deputy Combined Joint Engineer (CJENG) and Theater Engineer Plans and Operations Officer for the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Joint Command (IJC) in Kabul, Afghanistan; Executive Officer and S3 for the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power), Ft. Belvoir, VA; Executive Officer to the Deputy Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC; Team Chief and Convoy Live Fire OIC, 3-335 Training Support Battalion, Ft. Sheridan, IL; Company Commander, Charlie Company, 326th Engineer Battalion (AASLT), Ft. Campbell, KY; S4 and Assistant Division Engineer, 326th Engineer Battalion (AASLT), Ft. Campbell, KY; Division Plans Officer, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Red Cloud, S. Korea; S3 (Forward) and S1, 40th Engineer Battalion, Baumholder, GE; A&O and 1st Platoon Leader, Bravo Company, 40th Engineer Battalion, Baumholder, GE.

LTC Austin earned a Bachelors Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI; a Masters Degree in Engineering Management from the University of Missouri, Rolla, MO; and a Masters of Business Administration from Webster University, St. Louis, MO. He is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, KS; the Combined Arms and Service Staff School, Ft. Leavenworth, KS; the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Fort Leonard Wood, MO; Ranger School; Air Assault School; and Airborne School.

LTC Austin's military awards and decorations include: the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (w/3 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Army Commendation Medal (w/4 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Army Achievement Medal (w/3 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Combat Action Badge, the Ranger Tab, the Air Assault Badge, the Airborne Badge, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the NATO Medal (Bosnia and Afghanistan), the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, and the Bronze Order of the de Fleury Medal.

LTC Austin is married to the former Shannon Scharber of Nashville, TN and they have two children: Margaret (6) and Meredith (2).