

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE SPECIAL FORCES REGIMENT



**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4
ROBERT E. PENNINGTON**
U.S. Army, Retired

Inducted November 5, 2020



Chief Warrant Officer 4 (Retired) Robert E. Pennington served in the United States Army for more than 30 years, twenty-six of which were as a member of the Special Forces Regiment. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Pennington joined the Army in 1985, and graduated from the Special Forces Qualification course in 1990. In 1991, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Pennington graduated from the Warrant Officer Candidate School where he received the class Leadership Award and then completed the Special Forces Warrant Officer Basic Course.

He served with the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), deploying in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. While there, he served as a member of the Coalition Support Team liaising with the 20th Saudi Arabian Infantry along with the 6th Kuwaiti Tank Company. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Pennington advised and trained his Coalition partners in small unit tactics.

Once ground combat operations began, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Pennington's team spearheaded the assault with his coalition partners. From 1993 to 1996, Chief Pennington was deployed on five classified Joint Chiefs of Staff missions. Due to his expertise and experience Chief Pennington was chosen to oversee training at the Joint Special Operations Command.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Pennington would spend the next eleven years assigned to the 3rd Battalion. In 2001, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Pennington participated in the initial infiltration of Northern Afghanistan, he was picked by the 5th Special Forces Group Commander for combat operations and helped capture or kill 5,000 Taliban fighters. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Pennington performed heroically during this time. From 2003-2010, he deployed to Iraq in support of OIP I II and III. In 2010, Pennington was assigned to the Special Forces Doctrine and Training Division at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, where his expertise was vital in producing training for Special Forces.

Upon retirement, he continued to support the Special Forces Regiment by conducting interviews and briefs about the unique capabilities of Special Forces in the conduct of war and peacetime operations.

During his time Chief Warrant Officer 4 Robert E. Pennington received several awards including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with two oak leaf clusters and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.