

General Donald C. Bolduc

General Bolduc served thirty-three ½ years of military active-duty service to his country. He received two awards for valor, five Bronze Star medals, two Purple Hearts, led ten deployments to Afghanistan, and survived a bomb blast, numerous fire fights, and a helicopter crash. General Bolduc, the former Division-Level Commander, Special Operations Command Africa, has hung up his fatigues to take on his most important and challenging mission of advocating for veterans and their families, the treatment and shedding the stigma of PTS, TBI, pain management, sleep disorders, and neurotoxicity both from within the US military as well as the general public. Since retiring, Bolduc served as an Associate Professor and ran for the United States Senate as the 2022 Republican Party Nominee. He lost the general election to the democratic incumbent. Bolduc is currently a full-time police officer in Pittsfield, NH. General Bolduc is a licensed Christian Minister and Justice of the Peace. Bolduc is the recipient of a Medical Service Dog from Guardian Angels Medical Dog Service Inc. based in Williston, FL. Northrop Grumman sponsored the care and training of "Victor." Bolduc paired in February 2018 with Victor and is now enjoying the benefits of a medical service dog.

The General started his career as Private Bolduc on June 29, 1981, exactly 36 years before his final change of command. General Bolduc served a total of eighty-one months in combat during his career. He served in the 1983 invasion of Grenada as a squad leader (sergeant) in the 82d Airborne Division. As a Second Lieutenant, he served in the Republic of Korea patrolling the DMZ and graduated from the Korean Ranger School. He served with 10th Special Forces Group in the Persian Gulf and Operation Provide Comfort. In 5th Special Forces Group he served as a Special Forces Detachment Commander, Assistant Operations Officer, and Headquarters Company Commander. After the terrorist attacks of 9/11, then-Major Bolduc led one of the first groups into Afghanistan to take control of the Southern Afghanistan region from Taliban rule. One of the few survivors of a 2,000-pound bomb inadvertently targeted on their own position by friendly fire in December 2001. Despite his injuries, Bolduc refused to leave the battlefield and continued to take on his next objective. He was later awarded his first of several combat valor awards and a Purple Heart for his injuries. Bolduc served on the Joint Staff twice, the Office of the Secretary Defense, and as the Aide de Camp to the Secretary of the Army.

As the Battalion Commander of 1st Battalion 3rd Special Forces Group (Desert Eagles) Bolduc's unit deployed twice to Southern Afghanistan. The Desert Eagles were credited with the success of Operation Medusa and awarded the Canadian Commander-in-Chief Unit Commendation for actions by the "Desert Eagles" recognizing an extraordinary deed or activity, of a rare high standard, in extremely hazardous circumstances beyond the demands of normal duty in combat. This was the first time a foreign military unit received this distinction from the Canadian government and military. Bolduc received his second Purple Heart as a result of a helicopter crash during combat operations in the Uruzgan Province in October 2005.

As a Colonel from 2009 through 2011 he served as a Combat Advisor to the Regional Command-South Commanding General and as the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force commander- Afghanistan consisting of ~six thousand Special Operations personnel. In 2012 he served as Commander, Combined Joint Special Operations Component Commander in Afghanistan credited with the creation and establishment of the "Village Stability Operations" the only successful bottom-up stability effort in rural areas and villages in Afghanistan. The program achieved unprecedented security gains and was considered by the Taliban Commander Mullah Omar as the most dangerous program to the Taliban and al Qaida. This program undermined insurgent influence and control by the Taliban and ensured the stabilization of large areas of the war-torn country through Afghan Local Police. By the middle of 2013, the Afghan Government controlled nearly ninety percent of the rural areas in Afghanistan. Bolduc was recognized for distinction by the President of Afghanistan, Minister Of Interior, Minister of Defense, the Afghan Special Forces Commanding General. He was awarded the Lion of Kandahar Medal from the Kandahar Governor Sherzai. Bolduc also received military awards from Canada, Netherlands, and the Czech Republic for valor and military distinction.

In his role as the Deputy Director for US U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) from 2013-2015, Brigadier General Bolduc was responsible to the US AFRICOM Commander for the full spectrum of operations and activities across the African continent. In his role as the Special Operations Command-Africa commander (COMSOCAFRICA) from 2015-2017 BG Bolduc was responsible for ninety-six missions and more than two thousand Special Forces Soldiers, Marine Special Operators, Navy SEALs, and Airforce Special Operations, U.S. military personnel, interagency and international military personnel operating in twenty-eight countries throughout Africa and Europe. SOCAFRICA is U.S. Africa Command's lead counter-Violent Extremist Organizations (VEO) operations component. Bolduc received the Ordre Du Merite Nationale from Mauritania and the Ordre Du Lion from Senegal.

Bolduc's unit awards include the Presidential Unit Citation, Valorous Unit Award, eleven Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Meritorious Unit Citation, and the Superior Unit Award. Bolduc's other awards and decorations include the Defense Service Medal (the Army's highest award for achievement), 3 Defense Superior Service Medals, Legion of Merit, 5 Bronze Star Medals with Valor Device, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, 5 Meritorious Service Medals, 2 Defense Commendation Medals, 5 Army Commendation Medal with Valor Device, 3 Army Achievement Medals, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with Arrowhead, Good Conduct Medal, Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, GWOT Expeditionary Medal, GWOT Service Medal, Afghan Service with 4 stars, NATO Meritorious Service Medal, NATO Medal, 2 National Defense Service Medals, Armed Forces Service Medal, NCO Ribbon, Overseas Ribbon, and the Army Service Ribbon, Kuwait Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Jungle Expert Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Special Forces Tab, and Ranger Tab.

Bolduc is the recipient of the United States Army War College Distinguished Research Award presented on 6 June 2009.

Bolduc is the recipient of the Salem State University Marilyn E. Flaherty Distinguished Alumnus Award presented on 31 May 2015.

Bolduc is the recipient of the Dean College Distinguished Alumnus Award presented on 20 March 2019.

Bolduc is the recipient of an Honorary Police Commissioner in Manchester NH.

Bolduc has an A.S. in Criminal Justice from Dean College, B.S. in Sociology from Salem State University, M.A. in Business Technology/Human Resource Development from Webster University, and a M.S. in Strategic Studies from the Army War College, and a Doctor of Humane Letters from New England College presented on 15 January 2019.

In his younger years, Bolduc's work ethic was shaped by working on his Grandfather's farm, paper routes, working as a grounds keeper at a resort, working at Piche's Ski Shop, and working as a Police Cadet and then a Special (part-time) Police Officer on the Laconia Police Department. At the time, Bolduc was the youngest and only high school student to work as a part-time police officer in New Hampshire. Bolduc graduated from Class 4 of the NH Part-Time Police Academy in 1980 and again in class 281 in 2021. He is currently attending the full-time NH Police Academy class 193.

He credits his success to the efforts and support of his Mom and Dad, his wife Sharon, his family and friends, teachers, coaches, and to the people he had the honor to serve with during his 36 years of service. He dedicates every day of his life to the seventy-two service members he commanded that he did not bring home.

Bolduc resides in Stratham, NH and has been married to Sharon M. Bolduc for over 34 years. They have three sons Joshua, Zachary, and Matthew, as well as three grandchildren Little "J", Hurricane Hadley, and Hannah Banana.

Bolduc is currently involved with the following Boards, Organizations, and Academic institutions:

Boards and Academic Institutions

1. Former appointee by the Governor of New Hampshire to the Juvenile Parole Board-**Gov. Sununu**
2. Former Associate Professor, New England College-**Wayne Lespernce**

Advisor Positions

3. Member of Board of Directors, Mind Your Brain, University of Pennsylvania-**Candace Gantt**
4. Former Advisor of Operation Sea Daddy a Military Coaching and Social Networking to support transitioning service member to civilian life-**Jim Spotts**
5. Former Senior Advisor for the Center of Naval Analysis that provides innovative, expert analysis and high quality, and impart information for effective decision making-**Jon Schroden**
6. Former Advisor to Spirit of America an organization dedicated to directly supporting the safety and success of deployed US troops and diplomats-**Jim Hake**
7. Former Advisor for Mission Readiness, Council for a Strong America consisting of retired admirals and generals strengthening national security by ensuring kids stay in school, stay fit, and stay out of trouble-**Ben Goodman**

Veteran Organizations

8. Advisor to Vet Links that educates and empowers veterans and their families by linking them to services, support, and programs to enrich their quality of life-**Jessica Kavanaugh**
9. Advisor to Guardian Angels Inc. a nationally recognized nonprofit organization that specializes in training and pairing service dogs-**Carol Borden**
10. Former Advisor to Trauma and Resiliency Resources, Inc. they provide multi-faceted, focused, trauma interventions to first responders and warriors who develop symptoms of PTS and combat-related PTS because of executing line of duty/service responsibilities-**Eva Usadi**
11. Former Board Advisor for Warriors Heart Foundation a PTS and addiction treatment center for active military, veterans, and first responders- **Josh Lannon, Lisa Lannon, Tom Spooner**
12. Advisor for the Semper FI Fund, a non-profit 501 organization that provides a variety of programs to assist wounded veterans in all branches of the United States Armed Forces-**Karen Guenther and Wendy Lethin**
13. A supporter of Pease Greeters, a group of patriotic Americans who welcome men and women in our Armed Forces who pass through Pease International Airport-**JoAnne Schottler**