

Rear Admiral Joseph Kuzmick



A native of New Jersey, Rear Admiral Kuzmick graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science in Physics. In 1996, he earned a Master of Arts in Business from Webster University. His professional military education includes the United States Army Command and General Staff College and the Armed Forces Staff College.

His sea tours include Attack Squadron (VA) 34 “Blue Blasters” embarked on USS [*America*](#) (CV 66), VA-115 “Eagles” embarked on USS [*Midway*](#) (CV 41) and USS [*Independence*](#) (CV 62). During these tours, he participated in Operations *El Dorado Canyon* and *Desert Storm*. He also served as air operations officer for Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group 3 embarked on USS [*Abraham Lincoln*](#) (CVN 72), and as executive officer of USS [*John C. Stennis*](#) (CVN 74).

Kuzmick has commanded Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 128 “Fighting Phoenix,” Amphibious Command Ship USS [*Mount Whitney*](#) (LCC 20), and the aircraft carrier *John C. Stennis*.

His shore tours include VAQ-128 as an instructor; U.S. Naval Strike Warfare Center as Air Wing Training department head, and the Joint Staff National Airborne Operations Center as Command Center Operations chief.

His flag officer assignments include Chief of Naval Operations, director of Operations and Plans (N31). Kuzmick’s final assignment was as commander, Carrier Strike Group 15, between September 2013 and July 2015.

He has accumulated over 4,000 flight hours and 780 carrier landings. His personal military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, and various other service and unit awards.

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