**John Ellen Bio**

John was born and raised in Winston-Salem, NC along with three brothers, all of which achieved Eagle Scout.

Upon completion of a degree in Engineering Operations from North Carolina State University, he joined the Air Force and was sent to Los Angeles Air Force Station to help develop and procure communication satellites.

Three years later, he went to the 341st Strategic Missile Wing, Malmstrom AFB, Montana and served as a Missile Combat Crew Commander.

Following missile crew duty, he went to Vandenberg AFB, CA to flight test Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBM). He was then selected to attend the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in Monterey, CA. Along with officers from the other services he earned a Maters of Science Degree in Information Technology as a distinguished graduate.

From NPS he was assigned to the Pentagon to be the Program Element Monitor for ICBM Modernization.

Following DC, he moved to Whiteman AFB, MO, where he was the Squadron Commander of the 508th Strategic Missile Squadron.

Next was Strategic Air Command Headquarters, Offutt AFB, NE, where he was responsible for planning the ICBM targeting requirements as part of the Joint Strategic Targeting Planning Staff.

Next, he was selected for Minot AFB, ND, as the Commander of Missile Operations becoming the first-ever Group Commander in Strategic Air Command. Then, back to the Pentagon where he was the senior officer in missile modernization and finished his active-duty career as the Deputy Director of Air Force Strategic Systems Acquisition.

Upon retiring from the Air Force, he stayed at the Pentagon working for a small, consulting firm, Aero Thermo Technology, Inc. He served as the continuity person for acquisition of nuclear command and control systems. After 21 years, it was off to Kure Beach.

He was appointed to the Kure Beach Planning and Zoning Commission and for 2 of the 4 years he was the Chair of P&Z. He also serves on Congressman David Rouzer Veterans Affairs Council. John was elected to Kure Beach Town Council in 2017 and re-elected in 2021. He is the Kure Beach representative to the Pleasure Island Chamber of Commerce and is the Town’s representative to Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point (MOTSU) and the Town’s representative to the Wilmington Urban Metropolitan Planning Organization (WMPO).

John serves Wilmington Area Rebuilding Ministry (WARM) weekly and he and his wife Robbie serve the Wilmington Senior Citizen meal delivery program weekly.