

## United States Marine Corps (Ret.)

**Major General**  
Dennis J. Murphy  
Retired



Major General Dennis J. Murphy currently resides in Norfolk, VA.

General Murphy was born January 8, 1932 in New York City. He graduated from Georgetown University in 1953 with a B.S.S. degree in History and Government. In 1973 he earned a master's degree in International Affairs from The George Washington University.

He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in December 1953. In his early career he served as a Rifle Platoon Commander, participating in vertical assault development and in atomic bomb tests. He qualified in Army Ranger training, served as a Series Commander at the Recruit Depot, San Diego and commanded the Marine Detachment on the aircraft carrier Bennington (CVA-20). He commanded a Rifle Company and the Anti-Tank Company in the 1st Marine Brigade in Hawaii from 1961 to 1964.

After completing Amphibious Warfare School and the Nuclear Weapons Employment Course, he served in the Operations Section of the Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic. In July 1967 he was assigned as the Executive Officer of the 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines in Vietnam. He later served as Operations Officer of the 3rd Marine Regiment (Reinforced) operating along the DMZ in Vietnam until July 1968.

After completing the Marine Corps Command and Staff College he was assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps, where he served as the Ground Lieutenant Colonel Monitor and as Head, Ground Officer Control Unit, Personnel Department until August 1972.

He completed the National War College in June 1973, and subsequently reported to the 3d Marine Division on Okinawa. He served as Commanding Officer, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines and later commanded Battalion Landing Team 2/9 in Australia until June 1974.

He then served as the Special Assistant and Marine Corps Aide to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. In September 1976, he returned to Quantico as Head, Leadership Instruction Department. In August 1977, he assumed command of The Basic School. While serving in this capacity, he was selected for promotion to brigadier general.

He was advanced to that grade in July 1979 and assigned as Assistant Division Commander, 2d Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, NC. General Murphy was assigned duty as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Plans, Korean/U.S. Combined Forces Command, Seoul, Korea in July 1980. In July 1982, General Murphy was assigned as Deputy Commander, Fleet Marine Forces, Pacific in Hawaii. He was advanced to major general on March 1983, and assigned as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower/Director, Personnel Management Division at Headquarters Marine Corps in June 1983. He assumed command of the 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, NC in August 1984. He continued in that command until his retirement in November, 1987.

He retired to Norfolk, VA where he served as Executive Director, Hampton Roads Naval Historical Foundation until February 2003.

General Murphy married the former Dorothy Therese Madden in 1954. They have three children: Grace Marie, Steven F.X., and Brian; and have seven grandchildren.

(Revised September,2003)

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