



Admiral Mark Ferguson was born in Newfoundland, Canada and raised in Maryland. He graduated with distinction from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978, and completed nuclear power training prior to entering the fleet as a surface warfare officer.

Over his career, he has operated in both the Atlantic and Pacific fleets in ships ranging from destroyers to aircraft carriers. His assignments include duty aboard USS South Carolina (CGN 37), USS Fife (DD 991), and USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69), and command of USS Benfold (DDG 65) and Destroyer Squadron 18.

In addition to various staff assignments focused on manpower and legislative affairs, he served as a Special Assistant to the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe during Operation Allied Force. His flag assignments include service as the Navy's chief of legislative affairs and chief of naval personnel. From August 2011 until July 2014, he served as the 37th vice chief of naval operations.

Adm. Ferguson is a graduate of the Air Command and Staff College and holds a master's degree in computer science from the Naval Postgraduate School. He also completed a National Security Fellowship at the Harvard Kennedy School.

He is the recipient of various personal and campaign awards including the Distinguished Service Medal (3 awards), the Defense Superior Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit (3 awards).

He and his wife Lauré have two children and enjoy travel and sailing.

Source: <http://www.jfcnaples.nato.int/page11815033.aspx>