

# **Lt. Col. Christopher Bourne**

## **Class of 1978**

He attended Boston University where he received a B.S. in business. While in college, he graduated from Officers Candidate School and The Basics School as part of his military training and education. After Boston University, he was commissioned into the Marines as a second lieutenant.

Chris attended Warfare School in Quantico, Va., and was named Aide-de-Camp to Commandant of the Marine Corps in Washington, D.C. Also attended the Amphibious Warfare School and the Marine Command in Staff College at Quantico. After completing his military education and training, Chris was appointed commander of the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines at Camp Pendleton, Calif., and then he was appointed commander of 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division aboard the USS Peleliu.

In November 2001, Bourne led a United States Marine operation in southern Afghanistan. He commanded the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit that resulted in the seizure of a desert airfield near Kandahar. He led 2,000 soldiers aboard the USS Peleliu, the lead ship of a six-ship attack force carrying a total of 9,000 Marines and Navy sailors. Before the operation, he told his soldiers that this same battalion fought for the United States after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor 60 years ago. He reminded them why they were there...to protect the United States and its freedom.

Chris has published several papers on military history and warfare for the Institute for National Strategic Studies. He received the Meritorious Service Medal with 2 Gold Stars and the Navy Commendation Medal with 1 Gold Star. Chris is currently on assignment at the Pentagon.