Army Aviation Hall of Fame 2001 Induction

MG Richard D. Kenyon set an example of excellence from commanding combat aviation units in Vietnam, project manager of the Black Hawk, the Army's spokesman to the Congress for aviation systems to becoming chief of legislative liaison, primary representative of the secretary of the Army and chief of staff for all Army matters with the Congress.

He served two combat command tours in Vietnam, the first in a gun platoon in the 197th Attack Helicopter Company, and the second with the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion. In both he excelled.

During three years as project manager of the Black Hawk he handled source selection, initiation of production and building the new helicopter - the three toughest parts of the program - with great success.

In 1979 he became the Army aviation officer, primary point of contact on the Army Staff for Army Aviation matters. He was next assigned, but for only a few months, as deputy commander of the Aviation Center. His exceptional ability to organize, manage and articulate aviation programs resulted in his reassignment to the office of Director of Research, Development and Acquisition with responsibility for managing all large weapons systems, including Army aircraft. He was also the Army's spokesman to the Congress for these weapons systems. Because of his remarkable success in communicating with the Congress, the secretary of the Army selected him to be chief of legislative liaison. There are those of high rank at the time who believe that without him in these assignments some Army aviation programs would not have succeeded.

Following retirement he has been a dedicated volunteer with the Army Aviation Museum Foundation for 13 years and Chairman of its Executive Committee for three.