



# BIOGRAPHY



**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

## COLONEL MICHAEL T. THOMAS

Colonel Michael T. Thomas is the commander, 127th Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan. The wing consists of 1,705 authorized personnel, operating both the A-10 and KC-135 aircraft, and supports the requirements of Air Combat Command, Air Mobility Command and Air Force Special Operations Command. His role as the host wing commander includes providing overall support and services to 44 DoD and DHS tenant organizations, including all branches of the military as well as the Coast Guard and Customs Border Patrol. Nearly 6700 Active, Guard, and Reserve military and civilian personnel call Selfridge Air National Guard Base home.

Colonel Thomas is a command pilot with over 4000 hours of flight time in the C-130 and KC-135. He began his military career in 1976 when he enlisted into the Air Force Reserves as a C-130 Loadmaster at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. During his career, his duties have included instructor pilot, flight commander, operations officer, squadron commander, operations group commander, and wing vice commander. Colonel Thomas assumed command of the 127th Wing on 4 June 2011.



### EDUCATION:

1982 Oakland University, Bachelor of General Studies, Auburn Hills, Michigan  
1983 Officer Training School, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio Texas  
2001 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence  
2006 Air War College, by correspondence  
2011 Joint Task Force Commanders Course, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado

### ASSIGNMENTS:

1. July 1984 – May 1991, Rescue Pilot, C-130, 305<sup>th</sup> Air Rescue Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan
2. June 1991 – August 1992, Pilot, C-130, 63<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan
3. September 1992 – July 1994, Pilot, KC-135, 63<sup>rd</sup> Air Refueling Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan
4. July 1994 – April 2003, Pilot, C-130, 171<sup>st</sup> Airlift Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan
5. April 2003 – July 2003, Director of Operations, 171<sup>st</sup> Airlift Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan
6. July 2003 – August 2004, Squadron Commander, 171<sup>st</sup> Airlift Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan
7. August 2004 – December 2005, Operations Officer, 171<sup>st</sup> Airlift Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan
8. December 2005 – January 2011, Group Commander, 127<sup>th</sup> Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan
9. January 2011 – June 2011, Vice Commander, 127<sup>th</sup> Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan
10. June 2011 - present, Wing Commander, 127<sup>th</sup> Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan

### FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Rating: Command Pilot  
Flight Hours: More than 4000  
Aircraft Flown: KC-135, C-130, T-38, T-37  
Pilot wings from: Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi

**AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:**

Meritorious Service Medal, with two oak leaf clusters  
Air Medal  
Aerial Achievement Medal, with oak leaf cluster  
Air Force Commendation Medal  
Air Force Achievement Medal, with oak leaf cluster  
Meritorious Unit Award, with oak leaf cluster  
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor device and four oak leaf clusters  
Combat Readiness Medal, with eight oak leaf clusters  
Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, with oak leaf cluster  
National Defense Service Medal, with service star  
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, with two service stars  
Iraq Campaign Medal, with one service star  
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal  
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal  
Humanitarian Service Medal  
Air Force Overseas Ribbon Short  
Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border and one oak leaf cluster  
Air Force Longevity Service Medal, with six oak leaf clusters  
Armed Forces Reserve Medal, with hourglass device and 'M' device  
Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (Pistol)  
AF Training Ribbon  
Michigan War on Terrorism Medal  
Louisiana Emergency Service Medal  
Michigan Legion of Merit  
Michigan Broadsword Service Medal with five service stars  
Michigan OCONUS Ribbon with three oak leaf clusters

**EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:**

Second Lieutenant 26 July 1983  
First Lieutenant 26 July 1986  
Captain 26 July 1990  
Major 26 July 1997  
Lieutenant Colonel 26 July 2001  
Colonel 26 April 2007

(Current as of June 2011)