

Lynne Ferrari Blankenkemper



Born the youngest of 5 on March 3, 1964 in Rome, NY, Karen Lynne Ferrari moved with her family to Fort Walton Beach, Florida when she was 3 years old. Her mother, a nurse, and father a WWII Marine Corps veteran, were hard working lower middle class children of immigrants who raised their family in the Lutheran church they built in FWB in 1955. Sadly, Lynne lost her father when she was only 12 years old and her mother never remarried.

Following High School Lynne followed in her mother and father's footsteps, becoming both a nurse and an Air Force Officer. All in one week Lynne graduated from Troy State University School of Nursing, commissioned from AF ROTC into the Air Force and married her college sweetheart, Dennis Blankenkemper. From an early age it was clear, Lynne would keep herself very busy!

For 5 and a half years Lynne traveled for the Air Force on her many assignments taking her to Virginia, Maine, Texas and California. Ultimately in 1990, Lynne was deployed to Oman and Kuwait in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm where she served as a combat trauma flight and surgical nurse. Lynne returned from her deployment in 1991 and shortly thereafter she and Dennis started their family.

Dennis and Lynne began their journey through all 48 lower states to find the perfect place to raise their family. With much research and exploration, New Hampshire rose above all others as the the best place they could imagine. They moved to Lebanon, NH in 1993 and never regretted that decision. Their only child, Shannon, enjoyed the childhood Lynne and Dennis hoped for, a safe place with excellent schools and fresh air where their daughter could thrive and excel. Shannon has done just that.

In 2000, Lynne had a strong desire to return to the military as nurse, but only in a part time capacity. She joined the Navy Reserve and has been blessed with exceptional opportunities ever since. She was deployed in 2003 in support of Iraqi Freedom and again in 2011-2012 to Kandahar, Afghanistan as a combat nurse in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In 2012 she was again recalled to the Pentagon to be the policy advisor to the Chief of Navy Reserve for medical matters and is currently serving at the Defense Health Headquarters in the DC area where she does healthcare policy development for the Navy Reserve.

From 1993-2004 Lynne worked as a nurse and risk manager in the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical system until she moved to Concord to attend law school at Franklin Pierce Law Center. She earned her JD in 2007. It was through her legal work that she began her legislative journey. In 2009, Lynne won her special election in Concord. She won that same seat again in the regular election in 2010 and was appointed the Vice Chair of State and Federal Relations and Veteran's Affairs. However, when the Nation needed her in uniform, Lynne did not seek re-election in order to honor the back to back deployments.

Lynne still has her home in Concord and is anxious to return home at the end of this current Navy tour in Jan 2018. Her daughter is hopeful to return to New Hampshire as well and looks forward to starting her family in what she believes to be the best place in America to raise a family.