Kevin Pelham

Master Sergeant Kevin L. Pelham joined the Marine Corps from North Portland, Oregon. He first stepped onto the yellow footprints at MCRD San Diego in June of 1981, earning the title Marine in September. After boot camp he was ordered to attend Air Traffic Control School in Millington, Tennessee.

In March 1982, he graduated number one in his class, and meritoriously promoted to Lance Corporal. He was then ordered to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan. After his tour in Iwakuni, Master Sergeant Pelham realized being in the Marine Corps meant a lot of moving.

In May 1983, he reported to MATCS-38, MCAS (H) Tustin and between the Fleet Assistance Program and deployments, deployed with HMM-161 in support of the 13th Marine Amphibious Unit, Western Pacific. He stayed at MCAS (H) Tustin until May 1989 when he shipped overseas again to MATCS-18, MCAS Iwakuni Japan. After this tour at MCAS Iwakuni, Master Sergeant Pelham rejoined MATCS-38 for duty with SOMS aboard MCAS El Toro. While with MATCS-38, he deployed to South West Asia for duty during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In 1994 he again moved on, this time to MATCS-18 aboard MCAS Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. After a two-year tour of duty, he reported Marine Aviation Training Support Group-90 in Millington, Tennessee for duty as an instructor. He was instrumental in the move of the Air Traffic Control School House to MATSG Pensacola, Florida. In 1998, he reported to MCAS Camp Pendleton and a year later reported to MCAS-1 ATC Detachment A aboard MCB Camp Pendleton, as the Staff Non-Commissioned Officer-in-Charge.

In January 1984 he married Dorothy. They have three children, Eric, Nicholas, and Jessica.

His decorations include a Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal Sixth Award, three Southwest Asia Service Medals, Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), National Defense Service Medal, and three Sea Service Deployment Ribbons.