

# Biography

*Chief Warrant Officer Five Michael Knecht*  
Pilot, Aviation Detachment  
U.S. Army Parachute Team, "Golden Knights"



## Personal Statistics

Hometown: Brandon, Florida  
School Attended: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University

## Biographical Sketch

Chief Warrant Officer Five Michael E. Knecht is a fixed-wing pilot with over 20 years aviation experience and over 30 years of active duty service.

Knecht enlisted into the Army in 1981. After serving with the 82nd Airborne Division and 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), he was selected to attend Warrant Officer Candidate School and subsequently flight school. Since he started flying, Knecht has logged more than 6,000 flight hours, he is an Airline Transport Pilot and holds a Commercial Flight Instructor Instrument Rating, Multi-Engine Instructor Instrument Rating and Rotary Wing Flight Instructor Instrument Rating. Knecht has also earned a Masters of Aeronautical Science degree from ERAU, logged over 600 free fall parachute jumps and holds a Class D license and coach rating from the United States Parachute Association.



Mr Knecht has earned the Special Forces Tab, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (two oak leaf clusters), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (four oak leaf clusters), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal (seven oak leaf clusters), an Expert Infantryman's Badge, Expert Field Medical Badge, Master Aviator Wings, Master Parachutist Wings and was selected as the Golden Knight Aviator of the Year - 2006. Michael was awarded the Eagle Scout Award in 1977 and is a Life Member of the National Eagle Scout Association.

In addition to soldering and flying, Knecht enjoys spending time, scuba diving, skydiving, playing golf, and being an adjunct professor for ERAU.

[www.armygoldenknights.com](http://www.armygoldenknights.com)

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