



Kathleen S. Hildreth '83

Kathleen Hildreth is the co-founder of M1 Support Services, an aerospace and defense service company she grew 100 percent organically to over 7,000 employees and nearly a billion dollars in annual revenue. M1 has supported the Department of Defense in over 70 domestic and overseas locations.

Throughout her 40-year career, Hildreth has gained national attention and accolades for her government and management expertise. In 2019, she became the first and only veteran named to *Forbes'* list of "American's Richest Self-Made Women"—a list she has remained on since. *Forbes* also recognized her in its coveted "50 Over 50" list in 2023. In 2024, Hildreth was selected as a Distinguished Graduate of the United States Military Academy.

Hildreth graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1983 and was commissioned as an aviation officer, flying VIPs in Korea and then serving as a maintenance test pilot at Hunter Army Airfield before removing the uniform as captain in 1988. Hildreth served in positions of increasing responsibility with Fortune 500 companies before co-founding M1 Support Services, headquartered in Denton, Texas.

In support of USMA, she has been a featured speaker on the West Point Entrepreneur Virtual Speaker Series and has spoken to the USMA Class of "Hacking 4 Defense." She has been a Women's Conference Attendee and a Campaign Cabinet member of WPAOG since 2022. She established a \$1 million Cadet Glee Club Endowment and has had discussions and Q&A sessions with Cadet Glee Club members. Ms. Hildreth accompanied the West Point Glee Club on their concert tour in Greece in March of 2024.

She has also been a speaker at the Corbin Women's Leadership Forum "Lean In" luncheon and provided financial support to the "Friends of Army Women's Basketball." She has recently spoken to the Writing Fellows and is working closely with the Dean regarding the West Point Press and the commemoration of 50 years of women and West Point.

Since 2020, she has served on the board of the Wounded Warrior Project. Passionate about a wide variety of veteran causes, she has supported the Medal of Honor Museum, Military Women's Memorial, numerous military family scholarship funds, and many other local and national charities serving veterans and their families.

In 2024, she sold the majority of her company to Cerberus Capital Management.

In addition to a B.S. from West Point, Hildreth earned a Master of Education degree from Georgia Southern University.