

## 55<sup>th</sup> WING HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

### *1999 Heritage Project (Legends and Heroes)*

*(Inductions were done at the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Birthday Ball until 2005)*

- \*Col (Ret) Jack Jenkins, WWII former 55<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group commander
- \*MajGen (Ret) Edward Giller, WWII fighter pilot/downed a German Me262 jet
- \*Major (Ret) Walter Konantz, WWII credited with downing two jet Me262s
- \*MajGen (Ret) Howard P Smith, Cold War/Strat recon pioneer
- \*LtCol (Ret) Robert Rich, Cold War RB-50, returned fire on MiG-19
- \*Col (Ret) Burton Barrett, WWII veteran and Cold War RB-47 pioneer
- \*Col (Ret) Bruce Olmstead, Cold War Soviet prisoner (Maj Palm's copilot)
- \*Col (Ret) John McKone, Cold War Soviet prisoner (Maj Palm's navigator)
- \*Col Charles "Iron Mike" Rafferty, Cold War/Cuban missile crisis
- BrigGen (Ret) Regis Urschler, Cold War/Former 55<sup>th</sup> SRW commander
- Capt (Sep) Hank Dubuy, Cold War (LtCol Mattison's CP, NK shoot up)
- \*LtCol (Ret) Harrison Tull, Former Tuskegee Airman and Cold War EWO
- LtGen (Ret) George Miller, Former 55<sup>th</sup> SRW CC and Vice CinCSAC
- Col (Ret) Donald White, Former 2ACCS commander/ABNCP operations
- LtGen (Ret) John Sams, Former 1ACCS commander/E-4 operations
- BrigGen (Ret) Larry Mitchell, Former 55<sup>th</sup> SRW commander/Recon expert
- \*SSgt Ronald King, Killed in Kobar Towers terrorist attack
- Lt Sheila O'Lear Kirkwood, Desert Shield/Storm RC-135 EWO
- Major Edward "Muddy" Waters, Outstanding airmanship in RC-135 emergency

### **2000**

- LtGen (Ret) Tom Keck, Former 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Commander, 8<sup>th</sup> AF CC
- \*LtGen (Ret) Phillip Ford, Former 8<sup>th</sup> AF CC, ViceCINC of STRATCOM

### **2001**

- \*Col (Ret) William Riggs, Former 55<sup>th</sup> SRW CC during mission, aircraft and base transition, Longest serving 55<sup>th</sup> commander ever, 3 years, 11 months. Unmatched leadership.
- \*CMSgt (Ret) Jerald Kozlek, Gulf War/Open Skies support

### **2002**

- \*Major Willard Palm, Cold War, RB-47 shot down by Soviet fighter,
  - \*Capt Eugene Posa " 1 July 1960
  - \*Capt Dean Phillips "
  - \*Capt Oscar Goforth " (*Composite*)
- LtCol (Ret) James R. Taylor, Cold War/RC-135 EWO/instructor

### **2003**

- \*LtCol (Ret) Hobart Mattison, Cold War/RB-47 recovery after hostile fire
- \*LtCol (Ret) Roy "Pop" Kaden, Cold War RB-50/RB-47 strat recon pioneer

### **2004**

The Crew of RB-50G, #47-145- Shot down 29 July 1953, First 55<sup>th</sup> Cold War casualties

- \*Aircraft Commander: Capt Stanley K. O'Kelley (*Composite*)
- \*Copilot: Capt John E. Roche (sole survivor, died years later)
- \*Navigator: Capt Edmund J. Czyz
- \*Navigator: Capt Lloyd C. Wiggins
- \*Navigator: Capt James G. Keith

- \*Raven 1: Capt Warren J. Sanderson
  - \*Raven 2: Maj Francisco J. Tejada (continued)
  - \*Raven 3: Capt Robert E Stalnaker
  - \*Raven 4: Capt John C. Ward
  - \*Raven 6: Capt Frank E Beyer, Jr.
  - \*Flight Engineer: MSgt Francis L. Brown
  - \*Central Fire Control: SSgt Donald W. Gabree
  - \*Gunner/Radioman A1C Roland E. Goulet
  - \*Gunner A2C Charles J. Russell
  - \*Gunner A2C James E. Woods
  - \*Linguist SSgt Donald G. Hill
  - \*Linguist A2C Earl W. Radlein
- 2005** (*First year induction ceremony in Wg HQ hallway and at Ball*)
- \*LtCol (Ret) Warren L “Pappy” Cole, Cold War RB-50 strat recon pioneer
  - \*Major (Ret) Thomas “Loose” Lane, RC-135 equipment upgrade/training expert
- 2006**
- \*Col (Ret) Merlin F. (Steve) Stevens, Former 55<sup>th</sup> SRW/CC, inspirational leader, role model, motivator.
- 2007**
- \*Col (Ret) John E. Drost, Cold War RB-47 select pilot/crew commander for Special HHQ projects, missions
  - \*Major (Ret) Eddie “Mitch” Phillips, RC-135 EWO aircrew commander- pioneered innovative tactical applications of RC-135 platform
- 2008**
- LtCol (Ret) Jeffery Needham, RC-135 pilot/squadron commander - superior leadership/management
  - \*CMSgt (Ret) Lawrence Cobb, 55<sup>th</sup> maintenance/aircrew member; contractor on RC-135 systems
- 2009**
- Colonel (Ret) William H. (Bill) Ernst, Pilot/squadron commander; HQ SAC; Outstanding leadership and contributions through numerous service and military organizations during retirement years.
- The 55<sup>th</sup> Spouse - Past, Present, Future (*Composite*)
- 2010**
- LtCol (Ret) Howard L. (Lynn) Duncan, EWO; COBRA BALL, Big Safari program expert
- 2011** (*Induction ceremony in 55th OSS auditorium and at Ball*)
- Colonel (Ret) Michael J. Cook, outstanding performance as aircrew member/leader and staff officer in the 55<sup>th</sup> and associated units.
  - \*LtCol (Ret) Robb L. Hoover, career in 55<sup>th</sup> and supporting SAC units during Cold War; continued extraordinary contributions in documenting and education of the history of the 55<sup>th</sup>.
  - LtCol (Ret) Max R. Moore, 23 year career in 55<sup>th</sup> during Cold War as navigator and staff officer; and continued outstanding support to the Wing during retirement years with 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Assn.

**2012** (*Induction in AF Weather Agency auditorium and at Ball*)  
Colonel (Ret) Joseph W. Siniscalchi, RC-135 pilot/sqd commander, outstanding leader and manager.

**2013** *No inductee selected*

**2014** (*Induction in AF Wx Agency auditorium and at Ball*)  
LtColonel (Ret) Ricky J. McMahon, RC-135 navigator, founder and commander of 338<sup>th</sup> CCTSq. “The Godfather of RC Combat Crew Training”

**2015** (*Induction with family at Dock 1, Davis Maintenance facility before the Tales of Fifty-Fifth, and the Ball*)

\*Colonel (Ret) Joseph J. Gyulavics, 19+ consecutive years in 55<sup>th</sup>; pilot in three platforms, two bases; sqd commander; outstanding professional, leader, mentor, and role model.

**2016** (*Induction at Dock 1, Davis Maintenance facility before the Tales of Fifty-Fifth, and the Ball*)

CMSgt (Ret) Dennis Haun, Superior achievement, leadership, and mentoring in the 55<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group, 24RS/45thRS.

MSgt (Ret) John H. Armintrout, Exceptional performance as a career linguist, motivator, and mentor/role model in the intelligence field.

**2017** (*Same as previous year except presentation at the Ball did not allow speaking by inductees for first time ever.*)

LtCol (Ret) Michael McFarland, Outstanding recon pilot active duty and defense industry.

CMSgt (Ret) Larry Meade, Superior career maintainer with 55<sup>th</sup> and as contractor.

**2018** (*Venue was Patriot Club ballroom. Presentation at Ball without speaking.*)

Colonel (Ret) James Thomas, Superior service as Sqd CC, Ops Group CC, RC pilot, 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Assn president for 12 years.

Major (Ret) Richard Holsinger, Maintenance technician, recon navigator, RC contractor. Outstanding service.

**2019** (*Venue was Weather Wing auditorium for presentation prior to the Tales; walk-over at Ball. Prater did not attend Ball.*)

Capt (Sep) Kenneth Prater, RC-135 EWO/staff; contractor ‘Father of RJ-ELINT Suite

CMSgt (Ret) Edmiston, Career maintainer, superior performer, leader, role model.

**2020** (*Due to COVIC-19 restrictions, there was no formal presentation with attendees present. Plaques were placed on the wall. No Ball. A recognition reception was held 30 April 2021 at the Beardmore Event Center in Bellevue. Complete ceremony. Assn sponsored.*)

Major General (Ret) Kimberly Siniscalchi, Career nurse, White House nurse; and Air Force Ass’t Surgeon General, Medical Force, Nursing Services.

\*Colonel (Ret) Paul E. Fortin, Pioneer RB-47 EWO in strategic reconnaissance; instructor/evaluator with 55<sup>th</sup> SRW.

**2021** *No inductee selected. No Ball. COVID.*

