

Your Nominations Due By February 1 For Six Open Board Of Directors Seats

If you wish to be a member of the AFPAAA Board of Directors you must submit your request to be on the ballot by February 1.

As a Full Member of AFPAAA in good standing you can run for one of the six open seats in the upcoming election. Successful candidates will serve a two-year term that begins on July 1.

A member who desires to be a candidate should submit their request to be on the ballot to the nominating committee headed by Jay DeFrank with Judy Bivens, Chuck Merlo, and Carla Sylvester. It should be sent

to: jaydefrank@afpaaa.org by the deadline.

A short resume/biography that would encourage members to vote for them should be included. It should briefly sketch the member's qualifications; how they have supported AFPAAA, and why they want to be on the Board of Directors. A head and shoulders picture, either jpeg or TIFF format, or a print suitable for scanning, should accompany the resume/biography.

Potential candidates, if accepted by the committee for placement on the ballot, should understand that in

being a member of the Board they are signifying their willingness to enter the leadership progression to potentially become secretary, vice president, president, and ultimately chairman of the Board.

Four current members of the Board whose terms expire June 30 – Julie Briggs, Perry Nouis, Dave Phillips and Phil Ratliff – are seeking reelection.

The ballot will be in April's News & Notes and available for on-line voting via AFPAAA's website.

Election results will be announced after ballots submitted by the April 30 election deadline are counted.

Selection Process Underway For Air Force Public Affairs Hall Of Fame At DINFOS

Nominations for the inaugural group to be inducted into the Air Force Public Affairs Hall of Fame have been received and are being evaluated.

The nominations received include individuals of all ranks – enlisted, officers and civilians – from all the Public Affairs career specialties spanning the 1930's to the present day.

A committee representing the Air Force Broadcaster, the Air Force Musicians Association, the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association and the Combat Camera Association alumni groups is evaluating the nominations.

When the review is completed,

a list of candidates recommended for induction will go to the SAF/PA Director for review and to the AFPAAA Board of Directors for approval prior to announcing the inaugural group.

The first Hall of Fame inductees will be recognized at AFPAAA's Annual Membership Meeting in October in Dayton, Ohio.

The Hall of Fame project was initiated by AFPAAA to recognize and honor those who made significant and lasting contributions to the creation, growth and operation of the Air Force Public Affairs family that embraces the past and



present career fields of bands, broadcasting, information/public affairs, and visual information/Combat Camera.

The Air Force Public Affairs Hall of Fame will be a prominent part of the SAF/PA heritage wall display being constructed at the Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Maryland. In addition, a Hall of Fame web page will be created and maintained as part of AFPAAA's website. It will include photos of each member and a summary of their career accomplishments.

UPDATE

"All's a 'GO' for October at Wright-Patterson AFB", said AFPAAA's Annual Membership Meeting Coordinator Perry Nouis.

"Air Force Materiel Command and the National Museum of the United States Air Force have our visit on their calendars. And, our meeting headquarters, the Holiday Inn Fairborn, is accepting reservations."

"The only thing not locked in is our agenda, and that's very understandable," Perry said. "The Covid-19 virus is still imposing limits on gatherings throughout the nation and WPAFB and the museum are no different."



The up side is that coupled with the vaccines becoming available and our October dates, the likelihood is that there will be less limitations and greater latitude in how our hosts can put our agenda together, he explained. By mid-year he

UPDATE

expects to have an agenda in place and will get the word out.

So, make your plans now. Don't delay in making your hotel reservation at the Holiday Inn Fairborn. Get our AFPAAA rate of \$109+tax per night (single or double) valid October 4 through October 12, while available. Use the link <https://www.AFPAAA.org/hotel.html> or call (866) 628-6503 and say you are with the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association. For the latest info check <https://www.AFPAAA.org/events.html>

PRSA, IABC Accreditation Program Enhanced; AFPAAA Grants Now \$250

“It was time to update AFPAAA’s effort to help SAF/PA encourage Air Force enlisteds, officers and civilians in the Public Affairs career fields to broaden their knowledge by becoming accredited by the Public Relations Society of America or the International Association of Business Communicators,” said Carla Sylvester, who headed the revamping.

Four \$250 grants are now available annually to those who successfully complete accreditation from PRSA or IABC.

The grants replace those established when the program was created in 1997 at the request of SAF/PA to aid professional development of younger members of the Public Affairs career field. Ten grants of \$100, which at that time would cover half of the PRSA accreditation fee, were provided and would be renewed annually.

“In view of the fact that today that fee is almost double, it was time to reconsider our program and bring it up-to-date,” Carla explained. “We thought four grants of \$250 was more appropriate.” That number and the dollar value can be increased by AFPAAA’s Board of Directors if warranted.

Those eligible to apply for grants in the updated program include enlisteds through E-8, officers through O-5, and civilians through GS-14 who are in the active force, the Reserve, or Guard.

Recipients of AFPAAA grants cannot be receiving financial assistance for PRSA or IABC accreditation from another source, such as a Reservist Guard members civilian employer, or Air Force Credentialing Opportunities On-Line [COOL] for eligible enlisted members.

To be considered for one of the \$250 grants the individual applicant should submit their request with proof of accreditation to: scholarship@AFPAAA

Requests for grants must be submitted with proof of accreditation within three months of certification.



We’ve Added PayPal To How We Can Keep AFPAAA Financially Strong

Well, it’s January and most of us are already wrestling with our taxes. Few are thinking about this time next year – but we should because if we have a plan for 2021 we won’t be in stew when we tackle our tax returns a year from now.

AFPAAA can make some of that tax planning easier. We are a non-profit, tax-exempt veterans group under section 501 (a) of the IRS Code.

And that means we can accept your donations that, depending on your tax situation, you may be able to claim as deductions on your returns.

Now, you have a lot of things involved in your personal finances. Sure, charitable donations are one of them but it is highly unlikely AFPAAA tops that category. But we’d appreciate your including AFPAAA when the time comes.

Donations can come in many forms and AFPAAA has just added PayPal to a way you can contribute. Using

our secure PayPal system to handle your contribution makes donating easy. All the details are at our website: afpaaa.org Just click the ‘Donate’ button on our home page for the info you need to use PayPal.

If you prefer not to use PayPal, credit and debit cards are just as acceptable as re checks

But, there are many other ways you can support AFPAAA and all it does for all those now serving as well as us retired veterans.

Besides money, donations of stocks, real estate, collectibles, and other valuables are fine.

And you can specify your donation to one of three categories: In Memoriam - to honor a specific individual or individuals, Centurion Fund - with \$100 or more gives you a chance, if present, at a free room at the next Annual Membership Meeting, or Endowment Fund - which supports AFPAAA’s daily operations now and in the future..



Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association News & Notes, John Terino, editor, is published quarterly for members by the Air Force Public Affairs Alumni Association, P. O. Box 2446, East Peoria, IL 61611-2446. On-line subscriptions are available at www.AFPAAA.org **Membership Information:** Those who have served in Air Force Bands, Broadcasting, Multimedia, and Public Affairs career fields, as either military or civilian, are eligible for *Full Membership*. Current or former members of those career fields, still on active duty, or in the Guard or Reserve are eligible for *Associate Membership*. **Membership Rates:** Lifetime \$300 (payable in four quarterly \$75 installments); Full Membership, one-year \$25 or three years \$50. Associate Membership, one-year \$10 or three years \$20. Membership applications are available at www.AFPAAA.org **Officers and Board of Directors Members:** Chairman, Jay DeFrank; President, Perry Nouis; Vice President, Brett Ashworth; Secretary, Greg Smith, Treasurer, Phil Ratliff, Julie Briggs, John Dorrian, John Gura, Doug Kennett, Chuck Merlo, David Phillips, Jerry Renne, Carla Sylvester, and John Terino. **Committee Chairmen:** Annual Membership Meeting Coordinator, Perry Nouis; Communications, John Terino; Development, Joe Purka; Elections, Kathy McCollom; Finance, Phil Ratliff; Membership, Christine Queen; Oral History, John Gura; Website, Jim McGuire; SAF/PA Liaison, Lou Timmons.

From The President's Pen



We made it! 2020 is history, it's behind us. We can remember but thankfully, there's no going back; I know of no one who would want to. So, we press ahead.

With great sadness we learned of the passing late last year of two Public Affairs giants, Jerry Dalton, a remarkable leader who indelibly impacted Public Affairs, and Mark Rosenker, who had a distinguished Air Force and government career. Their accomplishments are shared in this issue of News & Notes.

Recognizing other major Public Affairs practitioners is a major item for our Annual Membership Meeting in October. We'll honor the first group of influential pioneers to be inducted into the Air Force Public Affairs Hall of Fame (HOF) from each of the career fields – Bands, Broadcasting, Information/Public Affairs, and Visual Information/Combat Camera – that comprise Air Force Public Affairs.

The HOF committee, chaired by Art Forster with representatives from each career field, is reviewing the nominations that were received by the December 1 deadline and will recommend to AFPAAA's Board those who will be considered to be the initial inductees into the Hall of Fame. Our thanks to Art and the committee for the terrific work they've done.

With Covid-19 still a major concern, even as the vaccines are starting to be distributed, all of us have many questions on how the virus will impact our gathering in October. That's still a long way off. The restrictions and safety procedures that exist today are likely to change by Fall.

That's why we haven't been able to put an agenda together. In the months ahead, working with Air Force Materiel Command PA, as the situation evolves we expect to see the current restrictions modified and develop an agenda. We'll keep you updated as things progress. For the most up-to-date information check our website: <https://www.AFPAAA.org> We want everyone who attends to enjoy themselves while keeping safe and healthy.

As we look forward to October and our 27th Annual Membership Meeting, we can all be happy last year is behind us and 2021 is off to a good start for AFPAAA and America.

– Perry

Lord Guard & Guide

Barbara A. Carr

Barbara Carr, an AFPAAA Life Member, who had more than 27 years of service in the Army and Air Force, passed away October 10. She was 69.

Barbara was born in Easton, Pennsylvania. She earned a bachelor's degree in English from Pennsylvania State University and a master's from Old Dominion University.

She enlisted in the Army and served as a photojournalist from 1975-1977.

Barbara was commissioned as an Air Force officer in 1979. Her assignments during a career in Public Affairs included Hq United States Air Forces in Europe. She retired in 2003 as a lieutenant colonel.

Barbara is survived by her husband, Glenn, son, Andrew, and daughter, Jules. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery.



What a loss. Barb Carr was a hard working, dedicated Air Force officer whose support and mentoring made a big difference in the careers of many PAs. We worked together at USAFE headquarters, where I quickly grew to respect and depend upon her wise counsel and PA savvy. Regardless of the challenge, she instinctively knew the best approach to meeting it. A true professional - she will be sorely missed.

– Jim McGuire

Charles A. Brown

AFPAAA Member Charlie died on October 12, 2020 at Pardee Hospital, Hendersonville, North Carolina. He was 88.

He was born in Mansfield, Ohio, and earned a bachelor's degree and an AFROTC commission at Miami University, Ohio, in 1953.

After he completed his active duty obligation, Charlie embarked on a broadcasting career only to be recalled to active duty during the Cuban missile crisis.

He remained on active duty, earned a master's degree from Boston University and completed a career in Public Affairs that included assignments at Lackland AFB, Texas; Pleiku AB, Vietnam; Air Force Recruiting Service, and the Air Force Audiovisual Service. At AAVS he produced numerous Air Force Now segments, recruiting commercials and other programs for internal and public distribution. Charlie retired in 1979 as a major.

In retirement, he had a long career in public relations with General Dynamics in San Diego, California. Among the programs he worked on were the Space Shuttle launch system - he was at the first launch in 1981, the Navy's Tomahawk Cruise Missile and General Dynamics entry in the competition with Boeing for the Air Force's Air Launched Cruise Missile.

He was preceded in death in 2015 by his wife of 62 years, Sue, and is survived by daughters Sheila and Stacey and six grandchildren.

A unique character who would light up any room he entered, Charlie was a "street smart" guy who always got the job done.



In the mid-70's, as media chief of Hq Strategic Air Command's Public Affairs Office in Omaha, he led and mentored a group of young captains and majors who went on to senior Public Affairs leadership positions. Roy Cunningham, Rick Fuller, Len Brady and I learned from one of the best – a guy who always put us in a position to succeed. His colorful personality, good humor, positive approach and personal integrity were welcomed during a period of tumultuous senior management challenges our office was experiencing. Charlie "went to the mat" for his folks and we will forever be grateful for his leadership.

– Art Forster

A great friend, a true professional communicator, a very dedicated and effective Air Force officer. From when we first met in 1967-68 in Vietnam, through doing Air Force Now segments on the Bird-Aircraft Strike Hazard Team, to the cruise missile fly-off, and until shortly before his death, Charlie and I regularly exchanged opinions and banter. He and Sue were wonderful people. The world has lost a good soul with his passing. Pax Vobiscum.

– John Terino

Harry J. 'Jerry' Dalton, Jr.

Jerry Dalton, a Lifetime Founder of AFPAAA and the only career Public Affairs Officer to rise through the ranks to be a general officer and the SAF/PA Director, died November 1. He was 93.

Born in San Antonio, Texas, he earned a bachelor of business administration degree in advertising from the University of Texas in 1949 and was a distinguished graduate of AFROTC when commissioned in January 1950 while attending graduate school.

In June 1950, when the Korean War began, Jerry volunteered for active duty and was assigned as assistant Public Information officer, March AFB, California. During his thirty-year career that ended with retirement as a brigadier general in August 1980 his assignments included Strategic Air Command Headquarters, special assistant to the Air Force Director of Information, and executive to the chief of information, U.S. Military Assistance Command Vietnam.

Assigned to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, he was the principal public affairs planner for the Vietnam prisoners of war and chairman of the Department of Defense POW/MIA Public Affairs Panel, a member of the DOD POW/MIA Task Group, and the White House POW Group.

Jerry was named Air Training Command Director of Information in 1972. He became SAF/OI Deputy Director in March 1975 and Director that December. Information was redesignated Public Affairs during his tenure in October 1979.

In retirement Jerry held corporate public relations positions with Electronic Data Systems, LTV Corporation, and Vought Aircraft.

He was a distinguished member of the Public Relations Society of America, serving as national treasurer, national secretary and president. He was the founding president of PRSA's Foundation and was elected to PRSA's College of Fellows in 1992. He received PRSA's highest award, the Gold Anvil, for his life-long service to the society and his efforts to advance the profession.

Jerry is survived by his wife Carolyn; daughter Cynthia; sons Robert and Steven, and seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by Marion, his first wife. He donated his body to the Willed Body Program, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Dad wrote his final press release today. He led an adventure filled life in service to our country and continued to travel the globe in his later years. Hope he is enjoying a margarita and Tex-Mex with Mom in heaven! We love and will miss you Dad and Gran D.

– Steve Dalton

A good honorable man and great officer. May his memory be eternal.

– Pat Miner

A leader, a mentor and an example for so many. I met him in the early 50's when I was a reporter for the Lincoln Nebraska Journal and then Lieutenant Dalton came over from Offutt AFB when the Lincoln base got B-47's. I did not know then what a major part he would play in my life. I certainly had him on my personal "board of directors." I worked with him in Vietnam when he was at MACV and I was at 7th AF. Always the professional, always the guide and teacher. He brought me to the Pentagon and assigned me tough PA tasks that broadened my perspectives, skills and served the Air Force well. He was a groomer of professionals and showed his "colors" in the Air Force and in PRSA. And, both my wives liked him!

– Don Hilkemeir

I thought Jerry was an ideal leader for all PAOs. He lived a full and rewarding life. I'm sure he was responsible for a lot of guys and gals being devoted to the Public Affairs career field. God bless him.

– Don Gilleland

Ahhh, the stories we could tell! I always got a kick out of the idea that - in SAC's formative years - 6' 4" Colonel Reade Tilley often used less than 6' 4" Jerry Dalton as an assistant or aide. That must have been something to see! I also recall that a few of the more irreverent among us sometimes referred to BGen Dalton as R2D2 ... not really a negative when you consider that robot could do EVERYTHING! When he became Director, I was about half-way through my 5-year odyssey at SAFPA's Chicago Office. He called me early on and asked for an update on our activities. After giving him a rundown, I asked if he had any specific projects or goals for us. That's when I got the best guidance from a boss I've ever received (before or since), he said, "Do what you think needs to be done!" Wow! Trust. Honesty, and unqualified support - that's why, to me, Jerry Dalton was a giant among us wee folk! RIP Boss.

– John Gura

I'm heartbroken. I remember him visiting ESC/PA at Hanscom AFB when I was a new lieutenant. I was a graduate of the University of Texas and he took a few extra moments to share some stories and insights with me. Later, in other assignments, I saw how General Dalton was not only a great PA but how he had done so much to develop outstanding leaders and PAs throughout our career field. I think no other SAF/PA has ever made such an impact on the quality of our officers, NCOs and airmen. He will be truly missed. Prayers for his wonderful family.

– Chuck Merlo

God Bless Jerry Dalton. His leadership was an inspiration to all of us. Our career field would never have been what it is today without him.

– Sam Giammo

Brigadier General Dalton was more than a legend in Air Force Public Affairs. He was an inspiration, a mentor, and an incredible leader, respected and beloved by those of us lucky enough to work with him and know him. His enormous legacy lives on

to this day and will endure in how he structured and shaped Air Force Public Affairs to be a major positive force in helping the Air Force accomplish its mission in the challenging decades since he led our field. He will be warmly remembered for his immense knowledge and competence matched by his great good humor and how he so deeply cared about those of us in our career field.

– Jay DeFrank

Everyone who has served, is serving or will serve in the Air Force Public Affairs career field owes a debt of gratitude to Gen Dalton, truly the "father of Air Force Public Affairs." He set the standard for all of us to follow with his leadership, intelligence, vision and professionalism. His mentorship produced a generation of motivated civilian, enlisted and officer leaders who have since passed on their wisdom, experiences and "know-how" to today's Public Affairs leaders. Gen Dalton overcame numerous obstacles to become the first career Public Affairs officer to attain the rank of brigadier general and serve as the Director of Air Force Public Affairs. His legacy will be forever recognized and appreciated with the dedication of the SAF/PA Conference Room named in his honor. We've lost one of our best but he will never be forgotten!

– Art Forster

We were lucky to have General Dalton champion public affairs, giving it prominence and importance as a key mission with direct access to leadership. He gave all of us who served under his leadership a sense of identity. Rest in peace – you will always be remembered as a man/leader who made a difference.

– Geoff Baker

What more can be said about Jerry Dalton that hasn't already been said. As the plaque outside the SAF/PA conference room named in his honor aptly states, he "was a legend in public affairs. General Dalton was a true professional, inspirational leader, visionary and role model to countless public affairs men and women, including officers, enlisted and civilians." He had a self-deprecating sense of humor. When speaking to commanders, he would start by saying, "Just because I'm the Director of Public Affairs doesn't mean we're keeping a low profile." One of many memories I have of him stands out. When I was Director of Public Affairs at Air Training Command and the Shah of Iran was at the Wilford Hall hospital in 1979 the press was howling because they were banned from the base. General Dalton came up with a brilliant idea. He got approval for the Shah's spokesman to hold a press conference off base, which took the pressure off us. Rest in peace, sir.

– Dave Shea

What can be said? We have lost a legend!

– Alan Shoemaker

Soon after he was promoted to Brigadier General in December 1975, he selected me to be his Special Assistant in SAFOL. The move to the front office was one of the highlights of my career. All of us were so excited and proud that one of our own had been selected to be the "Top Guy." From this position, Gen. Dalton changed the entire face of Public Affairs – supporting officer and enlisted professionalism and diversity. He championed more and more women and people of color entering the career field. He

was a great supporter of people serving around the world in the Band and Broadcaster fields. He was an expert at balancing close relationships with the Secretary of the Air Force while increasing the appreciation of Public Affairs with the Chief and among the generals on the E-Ring. Though small in stature, Gen. Dalton was a true "giant." He was a mentor and friend to many of us -- and a vigorous early supporter of AFPAAA.

– **Larry McCracken**

I first met Gen. Dalton when I was the air show coordinator for the Thunderbirds. He stood by my desk for half an hour waiting to talk to me while I coordinated details for an upcoming air show on the phone. Computers weren't yet available and arrangements were done by Autovon phone calls with every detail recorded by hand. I kept whispering apologies for the delay, but he insisted I finish. When I hung up, I began again to apologize profusely. He held up his hand, and I stopped talking. He smiled, held out his hand and said he was pleased to finally meet me. He had heard the PA shop was undermanned – we had three people – and wanted to see our operation for himself. Then he said, after watching me (then a mere staff sergeant) coordinate with senior officers the hundreds of details needed to pull off an air show, his questions already were answered. We spent another half hour taking about my career and my goals. He then gave me his business card and said if I ever needed anything, to give him a call. We kept in touch and crossed paths several times, even after he retired. He sought my opinions on a few enlisted special duty assignment applicants, cut through a lot of red tape, and helped me on several occasions. I valued his support; he had my utmost respect. Sincere condolences to his family. RIP sir.

– **Vickie Graham**

With Jerry's passing we have all lost a friend and mentor and so much more that would probably fill a book. Rest in peace my friend.

– **Lou Torraca**

Jerry Dalton was small but mighty. It was an honor to know and work with him. He knew both the PR business and the mission and goals of the USAF and could articulate them in a way that instilled reliability and confidence from his colleagues and superior officers. Mild mannered, friendly, and thoughtful, Jerry earned his star and made us all proud. He could take a ribbing. But there was no doubt about his loyalty and contributions to the Air Force. Jerry and I were selected by PRSA's Washington, DC chapter to be among its initial Hall of Fame inductees giving a level of respect and recognition from civilian practitioners to the professionalism of Air Force Public Affairs Officers. My most vivid personal memories of Jerry Dalton were of his dedication to his USAF duties and the wise, professional counsel he exemplified throughout his highly professional career. May God Bless him.

– **Vincent R. Tocci**

I first met General Dalton in the late '70's, at HQ USAFE. He was already quite a legend at that time. What a personable, caring man and what a gentleman. The positive impact he made on our career field is immense and immeasurable. My deepest sympathy to his family.

– **Valerie (Elbow) Johnston**

There's a personality type known as the "short man syndrome," someone who deals with his fears of inadequacy with aggression. General Dalton must have been raised right, because while it was his fate to be the shortest guy in any room (and relegated at first to the left rear of any marching formation), his self-confidence, dedication to service, concern for others, spotting and mentoring new talent – in other words, leadership ability – were genuine and natural and unforced. That goes a long way to explain how he survived, and thrived, at 5'1," in school, in the

military – and in Texas! General Dalton had a quick and wicked sense of humor, too. One example: The Patrick AFB meeting was my wife Janet's first exposure to our AFPAAA family. After the opening reception, the Daltons and their longtime friends Gerry and Ann Hickman, invited us to go to dinner with them. Toward the end of the meal the waitress asked if anyone wanted another glass of wine. I replied, "I'd better not, I have to speak tomorrow." Jerry spoke right up: "I believe I'll have another – because I'll have to listen to him." Zing! I'm grateful to have known him, for the opportunity to serve at the Pentagon during his time as SAF/OI Director, and for being friends with him and Marion and then Carolyn after we were both retired from active duty. One of my sons lives near Dallas so Janet and I had tried to visit with them whenever we were in town. Recently it became clear that he was in declining health, but every time we saw them was a fun time. A tremendous loss – and a tremendous inspiration to all of us. Rest in Peace, Sir.

– **Mark Foutch**

Mark V. Rosenker

AFPAAA Member Mark Rosenker, who had a 37-year active duty and reserve Air Force career as well as distinguished civilian and government careers, died peacefully on September 26 after a long battle with brain cancer. He was 73.

Mark was born in Baltimore, Maryland. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in communication and a commission through AFROTC from the University of Maryland in 1969.

On active duty he was Director of Radio and Television, Office of Public Affairs, Headquarters Air Force Systems Command, Andrews AFB, Maryland, and an advertising and publicity officer, 3305th Recruiting Detachment, U.S. Air Force Recruiting Service, Washington, D.C.

He moved from active to reserve status in 1972 in increasingly important positions, including mobilization assistant to the Director of Public Affairs, Hq Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Illinois, and the Director of Public Affairs, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. Mark retired in 2006 as a major general from his final assignment as mobilization assistant to the commander, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins AFB, Georgia.

In his civilian career he was vice president of public affairs for the Electronic Industries Alliance for 23 years. He then became more involved in Federal government service, ultimately receiving eight presidential appointments.

Mark served five Presidents in the Department of the Interior, the Federal Trade Commission, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, as well as a brief assignment in the Department of Transportation. He was Managing Director of the Washington, D.C. office of the United Network for Organ Sharing from October 1999 to January 2001 when he joined the White House Staff. As deputy assistant to the President of the United States and Director of the White House Military Office he was traveling with President George W. Bush on September 11, 2001.

President Bush appointed him to the National Transportation Safety Board in 2003. He served as a member, vice chairman, and, from 2005-2009, NTSB chairman.

He held a variety of positions after leaving Federal service as well as being a transportation analyst for CBS and NBC. He was also president of the Transportation Safety Group LLC which dealt with transportation issues in the United States and worldwide.

Mark is survived by his wife of 27 years, Heather. In 2018, Mark and Heather founded The Rosenker Center for Political Communication and Civic Leadership at The University of Maryland. The center is committed to the advancement of a diverse and productive democracy through the study of human communication. Memorial contributions in Mark's name can be made to: <https://tunnel2towers.org> or <https://www.taps.org>

Mark Rosenker was an IMA while I was assigned to Andrews AFB. What a character he was, and what an asset to the public affairs career field. Mark seemed to know everyone who was anyone in Washington DC. He was full of energy and ideas, always positive, and he had a solution (or two or three) in mind for every problem. He was a delight to work with and fun to know. In planning big events involving the White House, he was invaluable. He always made sure the Air Force was prominently featured and recognized for its support. A patriot, a workhorse, and an important cog in the wheel that moves Washington D.C., Mark will be missed by so many of us who were lucky to have known him.

– Valerie (Elbow) Johnston

I was saddened to hear of Mark's passing. He and I were reserve Public Affairs Officers for most of our careers. We often worked together on major projects. When we were colonels, it was rumored one of us would be named the Mobilization Assistant to the Director of Public Affairs and be promoted. Both of us were quite active in national Republican politics and knew our way around the Pentagon. We were close friends, but only one of us would get the coveted position and resulting star. Jokingly, when we shared lunch, we would encourage each other to order something with high cholesterol. As it turned out, I got a flag officer position in Air Combat Command and Mark went to the Pentagon. We congratulated each other and both had our stars. We were friends long after our retirement. Mark was a fun, loyal, talented person who did great work for the Air Force and for the National Transportation Safety Board. When the bridge collapsed in Minneapolis killing many people, Mark was up here helping lead the investigation so a tragedy like that wouldn't happen again. Mark accomplished more in his short 73 years than others with much longer lives. It was a privilege knowing Major General Mark Rosenker. He is missed.

–DennySchulstad

Mark was a dear friend. He replaced me as Mobilization Assistant to the Director of Public Affairs. He had an outstanding Air Force career and served our country in many other ways.

– Jim Hart

Mark Rosenker and I first served together in the 1976 bicentennial year at Andrews AFB. He was the Individual Mobilization Augmentee, (IMA) in the wing PA shop. Over the years our paths often merged at MAC headquarters and finally at Air Mobility Command where he was the IMA to the director. He was a consummate professional who sought every available assignment, be it at command, Air Force, DOD or other government agency and distinguished himself at each. I greatly valued his contributions and his friendship throughout. Mark's passing leaves a very large void in the hearts of many of us.

– Bud Ross

I first met Mark in 1970 or so when he was assigned to the former Air Force Systems Command, and I was at the Pentagon. Fast forward to 1994 when Mark was VP of Public Affairs for the Electronic Industries Association, and I was in the Washington Office of Hughes. He sponsored the media relations handbook that John Gulick and I co-authored. Mark's long and distinguished career – both in the Air Force and in government – speaks volumes. RIP, my friend.

– Dave Shea

Mark was an Airman's Airman and a credit to our career field.

– Dick Abel

Mark Rosenker was an incredibly positive influence in my life and an inspiration to me throughout my Air Force career. He was one of my closest friends and I learned a great deal from him both personally and professionally. He was always there at Andrews AFB, to do the BIG events whenever they occurred, day or night. His leadership and enthusiasm were infectious and motivated



everyone to work together to make every event a great success. I particularly remember Mark and I sitting in the Andrews press center at 3:00AM one morning, surrounded by numerous media representatives and helping military personnel from all branches of service load 9mm ammo into their extra magazines in order to deploy to Somalia for a pop-up crisis that had just materialized. As everyone was getting on their different aircraft to depart, we got word that headquarters Air Force public affairs wanted a public affairs officer to accompany the mission, to provide a media escort for the group. Before I could say a word, Mark said "I'll go". I said, but Mark, you have no backup materials or travel gear and he said, "don't worry about it, I'll figure it

out". Then he jumped on the aircraft, and waved goodbye with a big smile on his face. He retired me from the Air Force and flew from Washington to Barksdale, just to do my ceremony. I will always remember his kind words. When 911 hit, Mark was with President Bush at an event, because he was the head of the White House Military Office at that time. When the president was informed that 911 had occurred, the Secret Service asked him where he wanted to go. President Bush turned to Mark and said, "where should we go?" He replied, "go to Barksdale" because he knew it was secure and had excellent communications capabilities. I will always remember Mark and keep him in my thoughts and prayers. My friend, I salute you.

– Temple Black

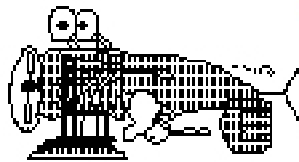
Mark Rosenker was one of a kind. He had a story for every occasion, a solution for every problem and he always "knew somebody" if you were looking for information. I worked with Mark at MAC/AMC as well as the Pentagon. I was also fortunate to have him as a friend. He seemed to enjoy himself the most when working in the field. He showed me how to heat up C-Rats on jeep manifolds during exercises and make his famous "Ranger Pudding". One day when I was deployed to Somalia in the early stages a C-141 landed and off steps Colonel Rosenker in full BDU's complete with pistol. He carried a box of cigars for me. It was almost Christmas and I felt like Santa had visited! We spent 2 plus 15 minutes ground time and he was on his way. He was a true professional and a lot of fun to be around! I am lucky to have known him. I will miss him.

– Mike Cox



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Welcome Aboard To . . . *new members Martha Cenkei, Michael Garza, Larry Hill, Michael Kelly, and April Lapetoda.*

New Lifers . . . *congratulations to Dick Abel and Richard Johnson.*

Thank You To Carolyn Terrill . . . *for her generous \$500 donation to AFPAAA in memory of her husband Mike, a Lifetime Founder of AFPAAA who passed away July 6th from the Covid-19 virus.*



Guard, TRANSCOM, Air Mobility Command Support Operation Warp Speed . . . *Governors in 26 states have turned to their National Guard to see how those resources can be employed to help distribute the Covid-19 vaccine approved last month. After using a "very scripted routine" that had been rehearsed to ensure handling of the vaccine was done correctly, Ohio and West Virginia Guardsmen have broken down large vaccine shipments to send to smaller distribution centers. With United Parcel Service and Federal Express the prime transporters of the vaccine throughout the nation, United States Transportation Command anticipates it will have a limited role in the distribution process but, with Air Mobility Command, it is ready to assist if needed. In preparation for its possible employment, Air Mobility Command has surveyed aerial ports at various bases to determine if they could store and ship the vaccines, which must be kept in extremely cold freezers.*