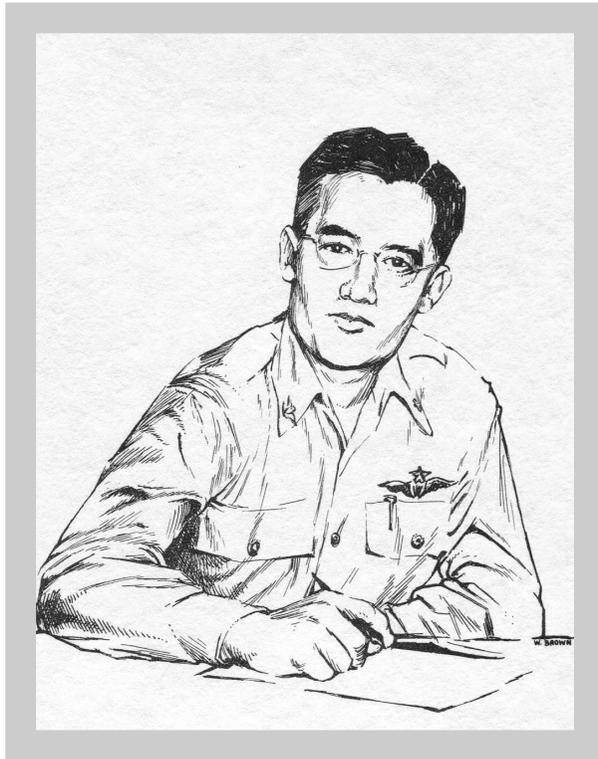




**FALCON**  
FOUNDATION



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

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**COLONEL**  
**JAMES D. GARCIA**

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U.S. AIR FORCE

# Colonel James D. Garcia

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Colonel James David Garcia was born in Idalia, Colorado on July 27, 1914. In 1935, he graduated from the University of Colorado with a degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry. In 1939, he graduated from West Point, received his commission in the Coast Artillery, and was detailed for flying training to the Army Air Corps. He received his wings at Kelly Field in 1940 and was transferred to the Air Corps.

In 1940, he married Betty Jane Millsop of Weirton, West Virginia.

With the country engaged in a major war, he rose rapidly in rank, becoming a Colonel in 1944 while serving as Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Twentieth Air Force, with headquarters at Guam.

In his brief but brilliant career, Colonel Garcia became a skilled pilot in heavy bombardment aircraft. He participated in submarine patrol in the Caribbean and in combat bombing operations from bases in the Mediterranean, China, India, and the Marianas. His practical and thorough knowledge of high altitude precision bombing led to his becoming an expert in the field of air intelligence. Colonel Garcia personally pioneered the development of improved target mosaics and charts, photo-interpretation techniques, radar trainers, and escape and evasion methods, the following is extracted from the records of the war department:

“...From the outset, his forceful efforts resulted in a thoroughly established, capably organized and well integrated intelligence for the command as a whole. The problem of organizing an intelligence section to serve the operation of a new type aircraft over distances heretofore never flown, over strange, unmapped territory, to bomb targets on which scant information was available, called for the highest degree of initiative and effort....”

When General LeMay moved to Guam from the China-India theater to assume command of the Marianas-based B-29 forces, he brought with him Colonel Garcia, who later became his Chief of Intelligence. By providing thousands of bombardiers with improved target materials, Colonel Garcia contributed directly to the success of the B-29 campaign which, in turn, was a prime factor in achieving victory without the need for surface invasion.

During his combat duty, Colonel Garcia earned the air medal with the Oak Leaf Cluster, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Legion of Merit.

On August 23, 1945, at the start of his return from Guam to the United States after the war had ended, Colonel Garcia was killed when the B-29 in which he was a passenger crashed on take-off,

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In memory of my beloved son-in-law, Jim Garcia, and as a lasting and living tribute to his courage, his ideals, his devotion to duty and his personal contribution to victory in World War II, I am pleased to establish the James David Garcia Memorial Scholarship as a means of facilitating the entrance into the United States Air Force Academy of young men of high character who aspire to carry on the splendid traditions of our Armed Forces.



Thomas E. Millsop

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The Falcon Foundation is a 501(c)(3), non-profit foundation. Its purpose is to provide scholarships to College or Preparatory Schools for motivated young people seeking admission to USAFA and a career in the Air Force.

Although it is a separate organization, the Falcon Foundation works closely with USAFA.