



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

**GENERAL
JOHN C. MEYER**

U.S. AIR FORCE

General John C. Meyer

General Meyer was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1919. He graduated from Dartmouth with an AB degree in political geography. In 1939, he enlisted in the Air Force and in 1940 completed flying training, was commissioned an officer and received his pilot wings.

After several flying assignments, he was assigned to the Eighth Air Force in England. There he commanded a fighter squadron and led it into combat. He rose to Group Deputy Commander and became the leading American fighter ace in Europe with 37 ½ aircraft destroyed in the air and on the ground. By the end of the war he had flown 200 combat missions with 462 combat flying hours.

In 1948, he was selected as the Air Force Secretary's principal point of contact with the U.S. House of Representatives. Later he returned to tactical flying as commander of the 4th Fighter Group which he took to war in Korea. There he destroyed two MIG-15 aircraft, bringing his total aircraft destroyed to 39 ½.

After two assignments as Director of Operations of two major commands, General Meyer graduated from the Air War College and was retained as an instructor. Next he was assigned to Strategic Air Command where he commanded two Air Divisions in northwest United States. In 1962, he moved to Headquarters, SAC, as Director of Plans. In 1963, General Meyers became Commander of the Tactical Air Command's Twelfth Air Force.

After two assignments to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he was selected in 1969 to be the Vice Chief of the U.S. Air Force. He rose to the position of Commander-in-Chief of the Strategic Air Command - its seventh Commander.

General Meyer's military career included an unusually wide variety of assignments, including operational jobs in air defense interceptors, tactical fighters and strategic bombers. He also served in key staff positions in the Joint Staff, Headquarters USAF, Air Force Staff and SAC Staff. He rapidly rose from command of a fighter squadron to Commander-in-Chief of Strategic Air Command.

His military decorations include: three Distinguished Service Crosses; two Distinguished Service Medal; two Silver Stars; one Legion of Merit; seven Distinguished Flying Crosses; 15 Air Medals; French Croix de Guerre with Palm; Belgium Croix de Guerre with Palm; Frank Hawks Memorial Award; and many other foreign awards.

General Meyer retired in July 1974. In December 1975 he passed away, leaving his wife Mary, who was a Naval Officer during World War II, and five children: Christine, John C., Jr., Michael, Margaret and Martha. John, Jr., is a graduate of the Air Force Academy.

Dear General Montgomery:

It is my privilege to sponsor this memorial Falcon Foundation scholarship in honor of General John C. Meyer who was not only a great Air Force leader but one of our top wartime fighter aces. He was an outstanding officer of sharp and wide ability. His assignments covered a wide range of important Air Force command and joint staff positions in both peace and war. This well-rounded, smart and brave officer leaves an enviable record reflecting deep devotion to duty. Through this scholarship, I am pleased to assist young people who are motivated to enter the Air Force Academy.

Sincerely,



*William Lyon
Maj. Gen., USAF (Ret.)*



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.