



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

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**MAJOR GENERAL  
WILLIAM B. SELL**

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U.S. AIR FORCE

# Major General Wendell B. Sell

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**M**ajor General Wendell B. Sell, USAF (Retired) has had both a distinguished military and civilian career. He was born in Pennsylvania but lived most of his life outside the military service in California. After service in the California National Guard, he was appointed from the Guard to the United States Military Academy, graduating in 1940. Because of eyesight problems he was unable to meet the Army Air Corps physical requirements, so entered the active service as an Antiaircraft Artilleryman.

General Sell commanded an AA battery at Pearl Harbor and subsequently saw service in Africa, Sicily, Italy, France and Germany during World War II. He was one of the early officers to become proficient in the field of radar and pioneered in the early applications of radar for defense against V-1 and V-2 missiles. After the war General Sell served in the Pentagon and on the Army Field Forces Air Defense Board and was involved in some of the first Army guided missile activities.

In 1954 General Sell resigned from active military service to enter industry. His various civilian assignments have included Project Engineer on Bomarc missile for Boeing; Vice President, AMF, Inc.; Vice President, The Marquardt Corporation; President and Chief Executive Officer, Packard Bell Electronics Corporation; and President and Chief Executive Officer of Hoffman Electronics Corporation. He retired from active management in 1979 but continued as a consultant and board member for several companies. In 1982 he was asked to serve as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Compact Video, Inc. on an interim basis while restructuring the Company.

After leaving active service, General Sell accepted a commission in the Air Force Reserve. His reserve career included assignments as Mobilization Assistant to the Commanders of SAMSO, AFLC and ATC. He retired in 1977 after 40 years service in active and reserve components.

In 1976, at the request of the Secretary of Defense, he served as Chairman of the Army Acquisition Review Committee for which he received the Army Outstanding Civilian Service Award. He has also served as President of the Los Angeles Chapter American Defense Preparedness Association, Trustee of the United States Military Academy, Trustee and Chairman of the Falcon Foundation, and as a key volunteer for many community affairs organizations.

General Sell, in addition to his B.S. degree from West Point also received an M.S. and Ph.D. in electrical engineering from John Hopkins University.

His service decorations include:

- Asiatic Pacific Theatre
- American Theatre
- European Theater
- Reserve Officers Medal
- Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster
- Croix de Guerre
- Legion of Merit
- Air Force Distinguished Service Medal

General Sell married Charlotte Hinckley of Redlands, California in 1941. They have six children; Wendell, Jr., Frank, Robert, Constance, Carolyn, and Mija.

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*Dear General Bellis:*

*On behalf of the Sell family, I am most pleased to sponsor through the Falcon Foundation an annual scholarship in perpetuity in honor of Major General Wendell B. Sell, U.S.A.F. (Retired).*

*In view of my husband's strong interest in and dedication to the Air Force and the Falcon Foundation, it is only fitting that such a scholarship be provided.*

*Sincerely,*

*Charlotte H. Sell*

*Charlotte H. Sell*

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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.