



FALCON
FOUNDATION



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

EDWARD C. ALDRIDGE JR.

Edward C. Aldridge Jr.

Mr. Edward C. "Pete" Aldridge Jr. is secretary of the Air Force.

Mr. Aldridge was born Aug. 18, 1938, in Houston and spent his youth in Shreveport, La. He received a bachelor of science degree in aeronautical engineering from Texas Agricultural and Mechanical University in 1960, and a master of science degree, also in aeronautical engineering, from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1962.

Prior to joining the Department of Defense in 1967, Mr. Aldridge held various staff and management positions with the Douglas Aircraft Co., Missile and Space Division, in Santa Monica, Calif., and in Washington, D.C.

In 1967 he joined the staff of the assistant secretary of defense for systems analysis as an operations research analyst and then served as director of the Strategic Defensive Division until July 1972. He also served as an adviser to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks in Helsinki and Vienna.

He re-entered private industry in 1972 as a senior manager with LTV Aerospace Corp. in Dallas for a year until he was named senior management associate in the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, Washington, D.C.

Returning to the Department of Defense in February 1974, Mr. Aldridge served as deputy assistant secretary of defense for strategic programs

until March 1976. He was then selected to be the director of planning and evaluation, a principal adviser to the secretary of defense in the planning and program evaluation of U.S. military forces and support structure.

He was named vice president, National Policy and Strategic Systems Group for the Systems Planning Corp., Arlington, Va., in March 1977. Mr. Aldridge was responsible for the corporation's study and analysis activities in the areas of strategic and conventional forces and long-range strategic planning.

In August 1981 he became under secretary of the Air Force with additional responsibility for providing overall direction, guidance and supervision for Air Force space programs, including launch and on-orbit operations, and planning for future space capabilities. He assumed his present duties in June 1986.

His work in various assignments has earned him numerous awards. Among these are the Secretary of Defense Meritorious Civilian Service Award, Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Award and Department of Defense Distinguished Public Service Award. He has been named a distinguished college of engineering alumnus from Texas A&M University and was the 1985 recipient of the American Astronautical Society Military Astronautics Award.

Mr. Aldridge is married to the former Joanne Knotts of Italy, Texas. They have four children.

The Falcon Foundation

It is a pleasure for the Gertrude Skelly Trust to establish scholarships in honor of Secretaries of the United States Air Force. Their outstanding civilian leadership through the years has been a key to the strength of our Nation's military posture. It is only fitting that these leaders be recognized and honored by the award, each year, of scholarships to deserving sons or daughters of career military personnel who will become the future leaders in our Air Force.

It is our privilege to establish this scholarship in perpetuity, honoring Mr. Edward C. Aldridge, Jr., Secretary of the United States Air Force (June 1986 to present).

Sincerely,

Gertrude Skelly Trust

J. Grant Stewart
Trustee

John R. March Jr.
Trustee



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.