



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

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**GENERAL  
DAVID C. JONES**

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U.S. AIR FORCE

# General David C. Jones

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From the days when he watched with fascination a group of Army Air Corps pilots cope with the harsh winter of his home state of North Dakota, David Jones aspired to follow in their footsteps. However, there was no way he could envision that such a career would culminate in being the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the top military officer in the United States. The path to this professional pinnacle wound through three wars, operational and command positions, three continents, assignments in strategic, tactical and training organizations, and experience at virtually every level of command in the Air Force, including four years at the top as Chief of Staff.

Interrupting his college education at the outbreak of World War II to enlist as an Aviation Cadet in the Army Air Corps, he received his commission and pilots' wings in February 1943. Spending the remainder of the war as an instructor was not what he had envisioned; but when the Korean conflict broke out he was on the way to the Far East within hours, where he flew more than 300 combat hours on bombing missions over North Korea. He also showed early signs of his exceptional capability, quickly becoming a bomber squadron commander and receiving an early promotion to Lieutenant Colonel. Nearly three years service as Aide to General Curtis LeMay, then Commander-in-Chief of the Strategic Air Command, gave him insight into how one of the most outstanding wartime and peacetime Commanders in history led his troops to an unheard of level of readiness.

David Jones continued to develop his extraordinary versatility as both Commander and Staff Officer, rising rapidly in rank and responsibility through squadron, wing, Major Command and Headquarters Air Force levels. He earned his first star as a Fighter Wing Commander and his sec-

ond while serving as Inspector, Operator, Planner, and Chief of Staff in United States Air Forces in Europe, (USAFE).

In early 1969 he returned to a combat zone, this time as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and then Vice Commander of 7th Air Force in Vietnam. He was then promoted and returned to the Strategic Air Command as Commander of 2nd Air Force. In this assignment, he became widely recognized as a brilliant innovator in leadership principles, management techniques, and human relations while raising the combat capability of his flying units to unprecedented heights.

He returned to Europe in 1971 and was awarded his fourth star and appointed as the dual hatted Commander-in-Chief of USAFE and Commander of NATO's 4th Allied Tactical Air Force. He reorganized both commands, reducing overhead and increasing combat effectiveness. This dynamic Commander moved the USAF Command Headquarters out of a city onto an active air base, and most notably, he drew on his understanding of tactical airpower employment to formulate new command and control concepts and to lead the drive to integrate airpower in Central Europe under NATO's Allied Air Forces Central Europe.

His breadth of experience and perspective well prepared him for larger responsibilities and the President appointed him Chief of Staff of the Air Force in 1974. Despite severe budgetary pressures and post-Vietnam antimilitarism, General Jones successfully defended his vision for the future and guided his service through wrenching policy decisions that laid the foundation for today's most powerful air force.

# General David C. Jones

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During the closing months of his term as Chief of Staff, he was required for protracted periods to take on the added responsibility as Acting Chairman. His grasp of complex issues made him the natural choice to be selected as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in June 1978. The President re-appointed him to a second two-year term in 1980 and he served in that capacity until leaving active military service in 1982. His eight year tenure as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff was the longest in history, a period during which he served four Presidents and four Secretaries of Defense.

David Jones has continued to serve his country. He has written and lectured on national security

issues and remains a key leader in the reorganization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, an effort he spearheaded while still in uniform. He continues to participate in private, but U.S. government sanctioned, arms control talks with senior Soviet officials.

Throughout his brilliant career, David Jones set standards of integrity, courage, professional excellence, innovation, and selflessness to which every leader should aspire. He and his talented and charming wife, Lois, will always remain a "First Family" in the hearts of Air Force people.

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*Dear General Bellis:*

*National Education Corporation is pleased to establish a Falcon Foundation Scholarship in honor of General David C. Jones (USAF/Ret.), former Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, who served an unprecedented eight year tenure as a member of the Joint Chiefs.*

*Among the numerous civilian awards honoring his public service are the designation as Educator of the Seventies by Education Magazine and the Golden Plate Award from the American Academy of Achievements. Throughout his brilliant career, the General has set standards of excellence, innovation, and selflessness, to which new generations of leaders should aspire.*

*Sincerely,*



*Leonard W. Jaffe*

*Vice Chairman*

*National Education Corporation*

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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.