



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

**BRIGADIER GENERAL
C. E. YEAGER**

U.S. AIR FORCE

Brigadier General C. E. Yeager

General “Chuck” Yeager was born in West Virginia in 1923. He graduated from high school in 1941 and enlisted in the Army Air Corps as a Private before World War II. He trained as a pilot under the Flying Sergeant program, received his wings at Luke Field in Phoenix, Arizona at the age of 20, and was sent to England in the fall of 1943 as a Flight Officer in the 357th Fighter Group - the first P-51 Mustang Group in the 8th Air Force.

Chuck was shot down in occupied France in March 1944 and with the help of the French underground escaped to Spain. After 4 months he made it to Gibraltar and was flown back to England by the British. He returned to his Squadron and combat, shooting down 13 enemy aircraft (five Me-109s on one mission). He also shot down a Me-262; one of the first jets shot down in any armed conflict.

He returned to the United States in February 1945 to attend the instructor pilot course. In July 1945 he went to Wright Field, Ohio, where he received his first taste of experimental flight test work. His assignment there led to his selection as pilot of the nation's first research rocket aircraft, the Bell X-1 at Edwards Air Force Base, California, where he served from 1949 to 1954.

General Yeager made world history on October 14, 1947, when he became the first man to fly faster than the speed of sound. During his nine-year assignment as the nation's leading test pilot, he also became the first man to fly more than twice the speed of sound, flying the Bell X-1A on December 12, 1953 at a speed of 1650 MPH, a Mach No. of 2.5.

General Yeager spent a tour in Germany and at George Air Force Base, California, as a Fighter Squadron Commander. General Yeager was graduated from the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, in June 1961 and became Commandant of the Aerospace Research Pilot School, where all military astronauts are

trained, in July 1962.

In July 1966 he assumed command of the 405th Fighter Wing at Clark Air Base, Republic of the Philippines. While Commander of the 405th Fighter Wing, he flew 127 missions in South Vietnam.

General Yeager assumed command of the 4th Tactical Fighter Wing at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina, in February 1968 and went with the wing to Korea during the Pueblo crisis. In July 1969, he became Vice Commander, 17th Air Force, with headquarters at Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

His military decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star with one Oak Leaf Cluster (OLC), Legion of Merit with one OLC, Distinguished Flying Cross with two OLCs, Bronze Star Medal with “V” device, Air Medal with 10 OLCs, Air Force Commendation Medal and Purple Heart. He is a command pilot and has flown just under 11,000 hours in 178 different types of military aircraft (including the F-15, F-16, F-18, and F-20A).

General Yeager's exploits have made him one of America's most honored fliers of the century. He received all of his country's top awards for permanent contribution to the history of flight, including the Collier and MacKay Trophies in 1948 and the Harmon International Trophy in 1954. On December 14, 1973 at the age of 50, he became the first military person ever to be enshrined in the Aviation Hall of Fame at Dayton, Ohio.

General Yeager was awarded an honorary doctor of science degree from West Virginia University in 1948 and an honorary doctor of science degree from Marshall University of Huntington, West Virginia, in 1969.

General Yeager is married to the former Glennis Faye Dickhouse of Grass Valley, California, and they reside in Cedar Ridge, California.

Dear General Bellis:

We, at Northrup, are pleased to sponsor the Falcon Foundation scholarship in honor of Brigadier General "Chuck" Yeager, one of the true pioneers in modern aviation history.

It is a pleasure to be a part of this program and I want to wish you and the Falcon Foundation all the very best.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,


*Thomas V. Jones
Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer
Northrop Corporation*



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.