

Biography

Dr. Jerry E. White

(Major General, USAF, Ret)

Dr. White was born in Iowa and raised in Spokane, Washington. He attended the University of Washington and received a B.S. in electrical engineering in 1959. In 1964 he received a Masters Degree in Astronautics from The Air Force Institute of Technology. He earned his Ph.D. in Astronautics from Purdue University in 1970.

General White served 13-½ years active duty, including two years as a mission controller at Cape Canaveral at the height of the U.S. space program. Six years were served as an associate professor of astronautics at the United States Air Force Academy. He is co-author of a nationally recognized textbook on astrodynamics, The Fundamentals of Astrodynamics. Although General White resigned from active service in 1973, he then spent 24 years in the Air Force Reserves in a number of assignments, retiring July 1, 1997 as a major general.



In his last Reserve assignment, he served as mobilization assistant to the commander of Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. AFMC is responsible for the development, acquisition and support of all new and existing airplane and space systems in the U.S. They control over 50% of the Air Force budget. Previously he served as mobilization assistant to the commanders of Electronic Systems Center and Aeronautical Systems Center. He also had assignments with what is now AF Space Command and the National Security Agency.

Additionally, he served on the Reserve Forces Policy Board (1992-1995) which oversees policy for the Reserve forces of all services. This Board reports to the Secretary of Defense.

In two consecutive years, 1967 and 1968, Dr. White was awarded the George Washington Honor Medal from the Freedom Foundation. In 1990 he was awarded the Legion of Merit Medal and in 1997 the Defense Service Medal. He is a registered professional engineer, a member of the Tau Beta Pi Honorary Engineering Society and an associate fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. In 1991 and 1993 he served as chairman of the Colorado Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee. He currently serves as Chairman, Board of Directors, Christian Management Association of the U.S. General White also serves on the board of the Air Force Association and their Development Committee. He is a member of the Greater Europe Mission Board as well other boards.

In his civilian capacity General White was the International President of The Navigators from 1986-2005. The Navigators is a Christian organization with 4000 employees in 104 countries. The Navigators focus on helping people cope with the realities of life in a troubled world, providing spiritual and practical help. He is currently President Emeritus and Chairman of the Navigator's US Board of Directors.

General White and his wife Mary have written twelve books on practical topics such as work, ethics, and parenting adult children. They reside in Colorado Springs.

He is a nationally competitive handball player and a recreational pilot. But most importantly, he is the father of four children and grandfather of eleven children.

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