

AVIATION WALL OF HONOR



Lieutenant Colonel Wm James L. King Pilot, Fighter Bomber USAF

James King was born on November 13, 1933 in Ishpeming, Michigan to James L. and Jane King. He grew up in the Lake Angeline location and graduated from Ishpeming High School in June 1952.

In April 1953, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and began his basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas. Later that year, he applied for and was accepted into the Aviation Cadet program. Upon graduation in 1954, he was commissioned a second lieutenant and was assigned to Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico as a flight engineer on the B-36 peacemaker.

In 1958, he began pilot training and upon completion was retained in the program as a flight instructor. Captain King instructed USAF pilots and foreign nationals earning a Master Certificate in Jet instruction.

In 1966, Captain King was given a flight assignment to the F-105 Thundercliff fighter-bomber. As Mission Commander, he participated in combat operation against the North Vietnamese earning various awards and citations. Upon completion of a second combat tour, he

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was assigned as a staff officer in the Strategic Air Command Headquarters.

Lieutenant Colonel King retired from active duty in 1979 and began a career in civil aviation. Currently (2004) he is providing flight instruction at the John D. Odegard School for Aerospace Sciences in Grand Forks, North Dakota. He is an F.A.A. Aviation Safety Counselor and an Aviation Certification Representative. In addition, he has been recognized as a Master Flight Instructor.

Lt. Col. King's honors are:

Military:

Silver Star (2)
Distinguished Flying Cross (3)
Meritorious Service Medal (2)
Air Medal (10)
Air Force Commendation Medal
National Defense Service Medal (2)
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (3, one with valor)
Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal
Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation
Air Force Reserve Medal
Air Force Longevity Service Award
Small Arms Expert Marksman
Good Conduct Medal
Flight Instructor of the Month (February 1965)

Civilian:

Dean's List, University of Miami
North Dakota Flight Instructor of the Year (1999)
Master Flight Instructor
University of North Dakota Meritorious Service (2002)

TJ Mudge, Aug. 2004