

LT. COL. LARRY FIELD USAF, RET.

AWARDS and MEDALS RECEIVED

- 1958: Small Arms Expert Award
- 1958-1978: National Defense Medal
- 1958-1978: Combat Readiness Medal
- 1963, 1975, 1978: 3 Commendation Medals for Strategic Air Command crew duties and staff positions
- 1965-1975: Vietnam Campaign and Vietnam Service Medals
- 1965-1975: 7 Air Medals for service in 5000 flying hours and 210 Combat Missions
- 1970-1975: 3 Air Force Outstanding Unit Medals
- 1974-1975: Meritorious Service Medal
- 1978: Air Force Longevity Service Medal



1967 Captain Field with the KC-135 tanker crew

**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS
2017
LARRY FIELD
GRADUATE OF THE CLASS OF 1952**

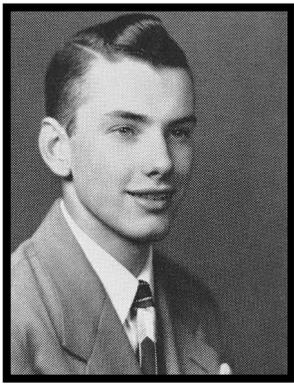


**Watkins Glen High School
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

JUNE 24 2017

92ND ANNUAL ALUMNI BANQUET





LT. COL. LAWRENCE H. FIELD, USAF, RET.
DISTINGUISHED IN THE FIELD OF MILITARY SERVICE

Watkins Glen High School Distinguished Alumni Award

Biography

This 2017 Distinguished Alumnus graduated from Watkins High in 1952, and while attending Syracuse University on a Regents Scholarship, he joined the ROTC. Commissioned into the USAF in 1956, Lawrence H. Field served his country with honor and distinction for 22 years, retiring in 1978 with the rank of Lt Colonel.

Most of Larry's flying hours took place in the initial 13 years of his career. As he rose in rank to 1st Lt. and then Captain, he served as Navigator on refueling tankers, flying numerous missions over the U.S., Labrador and Greenland. The crew on these tankers not only served to refuel the B-52 bombers, but in the event of a nuclear war, their mission was to give all of their fuel to the bombers, and then bail out - a freezing thought when flying over the North Pole! Another rise in rank to Major came in 1966 as Larry continued flying as Navigator as well as Instructor Navigator. He flew many refueling missions, often in tense and often dangerous situations. Major Field was credited with 5000 flying hours, 1000 of which were in support of the Vietnam War from 1965-1975. Of those 1000 hours, 210 flights were combat missions, earning Major Field a total of seven (7) air medals.

In 1970, Major Field was assigned to the Strategic Air Command HQ. in Omaha, NE, where he served as staff officer in Information Services in support of our nation's nuclear war plans. During his 2nd year of this 4 year assignment Major Field was promoted to Lt. Colonel.

His next Strategic Air Command assignment was as Chief of Special Missions for the 307th Strategic Wing in Thailand. As Wing Chief Tanker Navigation Officer he was credited with developing and maintaining all operational and training routes in South East Asia. In this period Lt. Colonel Field received his most prominent decoration: The Meritorious Service Award. His citation stated that his expertise, and his dedication in his service performance was a major contributing factor to his unit's superb performance during the evacuations of Phnom Penh and Saigon - and in the rescue of the SS Mayaguez, the US Merchant ship seized by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. It was he who organized, planned and coordinated the implementation of these missions for his unit, and directed the efforts of collateral agencies. The successful mission results brought thanks and praise for Lt. Colonel Field from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Strategic Air Command Commander in Chief and from the President of the United States himself.

Larry married Nancy Love, a high school classmate, and, until her death in 2011, they shared 53 years of marriage, 3 sons, 8 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

On June 2nd, 2016, sixty years to the day that he had been commissioned into the Air Force, Larry had the great pleasure and distinct honor of swearing in his own granddaughter at her USAF Academy graduation ceremony.