



David M. Jones '36

Has been elected to membership in the

Beta Phi Hall of Honor

Class of 2005

Major General David M. Jones- United States Air Force (retired) was born in Marshfield, Oregon in 1913. Upon graduation from Tucson High School in 1932 he entered the U of A and graduated in 1936. Enlisting in the Arizona National Guard he served one year in the Cavalry prior to entering pilot training in 1937. Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Corps, he received his Pilot rating and began service with the 17th Bomb Group at March and McChord Fields.

In early 1942, he volunteered for the Doolittle Project. After the famous raid on Tokyo by “Doolittle’s Raiders”, he bailed out over China and was rescued and returned to the United States. For his service as a flight commander in this mission, Brother Jones received the Distinguished Flying Cross.

In September of 1942, General Jones was assigned as Commander of the 319th Bomb Group in North Africa. On December 4, 1942, he was shot down over Bizerte, North Africa, and spent 2 ½ years as a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft III, Germany.

General Jones has held numerous command assignments in the US and Europe with the US Air Force and NASA including command of the 47th Bomb Wing, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Proving Ground Command, Vice Commander, Air Division, Wright-Patterson AFB. and Deputy Associate Administrator for Manned Space Flights, NASA, Washington, DC. General Jones attended Command and General Staff School, Armed Forces Staff College and the National War College.

Among his many decorations, he holds the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Air Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart, Air Force Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, NASA Exceptional Commendation Medal with one device, the Chinese Order of Yung Hui, 5th Class, and the NASA Distinguished Service Medal.

General Jones retired on May 31, 1973. He accepted the position as Chairman of the Board, Southeast Bank of Brevard and again retired in 1982.

Among his many community activities, General Jones is past President of the Chamber of Commerce of South Brevard, past Trustee of the Florida Institute of Technology and the Florida Air Academy. He has served as campaign chairman and President of the Board of the United Way. He has served on the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society of Brevard and the Holmes Regional Medical Center as well as Chairman of the Brevard County Health Facility Authority. He is a member of the Air Force Association, the Daedalians, the Society of Experimental Test Pilots, and the Sea-Space Symposium, He is also active on the Board of the Doolittle Raiders Association.

General Jones resides in San Antonio, Texas and Tucson, Arizona along with his wife Janna-Neen.

Brother Jones said “Sigma Chi taught me the value of friendships maintained for a lifetime, cooperation within a group, and rules for positive behavior which have guided my personal and professional life”.