

COLONEL JOSEPH WILLIAM "JAY" BARNES, USAF, RET.

Joseph W. "Jay" Barnes, a resident of West Orange, NJ, passed away October 2021. He was 76 years old. Born July 28, 1946, to the late William and Elizabeth Harris Barnes. Survivors include his wife, Susan Macbeth Barnes, a son, Benjamin, and wife Tanya and two grandchildren, Alex and Isaiah.

He was a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy class of 1968. He received a Master of Business Administration from Oklahoma City University in 1977. His time in the United States Air Force covered a span of thirty-six years and five months both active and reserve duty. He retired in 2009 with the rank of Colonel (O-6).

Following his graduation from the United States Air Force Academy he served twelve years in the US Air Force as a pilot, Flight Training Instructor, flying the C-141 and T-30 aircraft and a Forward Air Controller (FAC) in Vietnam flying the O-2A for thirteen months. Following his release from Active Duty, he remained in the Air Force Reserve as a member of the Air Force Command Air Staff, Charleston, SC. In addition to being an Air Force pilot he also was a pilot for Continental Airlines and United Airlines. As a civilian pilot, he was a Senior Captain flying the B737, B727, B747, B757, B767, B777 passenger aircraft.

His military decorations and campaign ribbons include the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon; Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with 2 devices; Vietnam Service Medal with 3 devices; National Defense Service Medal; Presidential Unit Citation, Republic of Viet Nam Gallantry Cross with Palm; Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; Distinguished Flying Cross with 1 Device; Air Medal with 13 Devices; Republic of Viet Nam Gallantry Cross with Bronze Star; Two Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Silver Star

Jay was a loyal and supportive member of the Air Force and various military support organizations which he never ceased discussing. His passion was flying and serving in the military and civilian communities. He held the rank of Commandeur in Knights Templar NATO Grand Priory and Priory of the Christian Soldier of GPUSA.

Jay was a long-time member of the Reserves of America (ROA) serving both at the National and Department levels. He was one of two who initiated the ROA Academy for that at the ROA National Organization. His interment will be at 1000 on 20 July 2022 at the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO.