



Remembering our brothers who have passed from this life

MEIER, JAMES WILLIAM '58

Major General James W. Meier, USAF, retired, died on 5 August 2000 at his home in South Carolina. During Reunion 2000, General Meier lead a tribute to the AMA men who were killed in the Vietnam War. When he appeared at the reunion, he knew that he had the life-threatening brain tumor. He was buried with full military honors in Beaufort (SC) National Cemetery .

General Meier flew 77 combat missions in an F-4 while assigned to the 390th Tactical Fighter Squadron in Da Nang during the Vietnam War. He later flew as an instructor-pilot in the B52G bomber. In his career, he had 4,400 flying hours.

In 1971-75, Meier was assigned to the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific. He went back to flying duties in 1977 with the 524th Bombardment Squadron as a B52-G aircraft commander and assumed command of the squadron in 1978. He later became Chief, Strategic Operations Division, Headquarters, USAF Washington, DC. General Meier served as vice commander of the 416th Bombardment Wing, Griffiss AFB, NY in 1983-84, and then was commander of the 92nd Bombardment Wing, Fairchild AFB, WA.

He served as deputy director for operations, National Military Command System, Operations Directorate, Joint Staff, in Washington, DC, and was named vice commander of the 15th Air Force in 1991. After he retired from the Air Force in 1992, he worked for Northrop Grumman with responsibility for research and development for the B-2 Stealth bomber. Since 1996, he had been an associate professor at Embry-Riddle University and had worked for Two Stroke International.

His military awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device and three oak leaf clusters, Vietnam Service Medal with four service stars, Republic of

Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

At Augusta four years: First Lieutenant; football, baseball and basketball; Roller Rifles; Cotillion Club; and he was consistently on the Academic Honor Roll.

A native of Cleveland Heights, OH, he earned a BS degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1962 and a Masters in business administration in 1974 at Pepperdine University.

He is survived by his wife of thirty-six years, the former Paulette Frierson; two grown sons, Christopher, of Baltimore, and Scott, of Atlanta; and a brother, **Ernest Jack Meier, '55**, of Bowling Green, KY.

(2000 October Bayonet)