

2006 CHS Hall of Fame Inductee - Brig. Gen. Donald Goodman, Class of 1950

(Bio. Form submitted by Donald's daughter,
Connie Goodman)



Achievements and awards at Central High School

- First Bass in A Cappella Choir
- Contributor to Blue & Gold
- Member of the Drama Club
- Member of Declam

Unique contributions to Central High School

My father's friends say the following: that he was loyal and trustworthy, always helped a friend in need, was a hard worker, kind to his mother, did everything well, was self-assured and had good clean fun. While there are no ribbons or awards necessarily for these traits, they are ribbon and award-worthy and certainly contributed to the overall character of Central High School.

Other achievements and awards (received elsewhere than Central High School)

- Church and Civic Activities
- Dedicated to God, wife, children and country
- Member of Jaycees in Papillion, NE
- Girl's softball coach and Intramural Sports Director – Papillion, NE
- Ordained Deacon in the Baptist Church – 1970
- Chairman of the Deacons – Harrison Street Baptist Church – LaVista, Nebraska, Jurbise International Baptist Church – Jurbise, Belgium, First Baptist Church – Wimberley, Texas



- Member of Building and Long Range Planning Committees of churches in Ft Worth, Texas, Papillion, Nebraska, Jurbise, Belgium, Springfield, Virginia and Wimberley, Texas
- Church Youth Director – Harrison Street Baptist Church
- Commander of VFW Post No. 6441– Wimberley, Texas
- Member of National Historical Society – Wimberley, Texas
- “Windows to the World” – speaking engagements throughout Central Texas, introducing them to special insights into the world at large

Education

Bachelors Degree – University of Nebraska - 1970

Career

1950 – 1985 - United States Air Force - Retired as a Brigadier General

1985 – 1991 - Boeing Helicopter - International Sales and Marketing Director

United States Air Force Career Highlights

Master Navigator

Graduated – Officer Candidate School - 1955

Graduated – Squadron Officer School – 1960

Graduated – Industrial College of the Armed Forces – 1974

1956 – Selected by Strategic Air Command to be one of the first 2nd Lieutenants to enter B-52 combat crew training as a Navigator.

1965 – served at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam

1967 – served as Bomber Operations Planner with Strategic Air Command Advanced Echelon, Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

1974 – Director of Combat Plans, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

1976 – Chief of Nuclear Policy – Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe – Casteau, Belgium

1977 – Senior Special Assistant to Chief of Staff

1979 – Executive Officer to the Supreme Commander, Allied Powers Europe – General Alexander Haig

1980 – Promoted to Brigadier General

1980 – Assistant Vice Director for Attaches and Training – Pentagon

1981 – Chief of Staff of the Defense Intelligence Agency

Citations and Medals

- Defense Distinguished Service Medal
- Combat Readiness Medal
- Air Force Commendation Medal
- Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster
- Air Force Commendation Medal.
- Bronze Star Medal
- Defense Superior Service Medal
- Meritorious Service Medal
- Legion of Merit Medal
- Good Conduct Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster
- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters
- Air Force Service Award Ribbon with 7 Oak Leaf Clusters
- Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Device

- Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal
- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
- Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with Valor Device

Other accomplishments

We tried to be thorough in section 3 as to my father's accomplishments and awards. There are, however, accomplishments that are not recognized with an award but to my father, would be much more significant than these. When my father arrived in heaven in 1996, the words that were the sweetest to him and the best accomplishment he could ever have had were from the Lord – because I am confident that when my father knelt before the Lord, the words he heard were “Well done, my good and faithful servant”. Countless lives were changed as a result of my father, his counsel and his testimony. We were fascinated by the number of people all over the world, from many, many different nations, that sent congratulations to my father upon his retirement that noted his favorite scripture – Isaiah 6:8 – “Here am I Lord, send me” in their congratulatory remarks. The consistency of his life and his testimony are an accomplishment not attained by many.

As far as his family, being adored by his wife and having all 4 daughters say they were a “daddy's girl” - well, these were accomplishments beyond his wildest dreams. My best friend made a significant point to me when we were talking about my dad the year after he died. She said, “Connie, your family is so blessed – many families mourn for what they didn't have when someone dies...your family is mourning for what they did.” He was our hero.

Additional information to share with the selection committee:

This is our father's military biography in its entirety.

Brigadier General Donald W. Goodman was Chief of Staff and Assistant Vice Director for Attaches and Training, Defense Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C.

The general graduated from the University of Nebraska, Omaha, in 1970 with a bachelor of general studies degree in history. He completed Squadron Officer School in 1960 at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, in 1974.

In June 1950 he entered the U.S. Air Force as a private and served as a noncommissioned officer with the 3700th Basic Military Training Wing at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. He was a distinguished graduate from Officer Candidate School in 1955 with a commission as a second lieutenant. General Goodman then completed basic navigator

training at James Connally Air Force Base, Texas. Upon completion of advanced training in navigation, bombardment and reconnaissance at Mather Air Force Base, Calif., in December 1956, he was selected by Strategic Air Command to be one of the first second lieutenants to enter B-52 combat crew training as a navigator and was assigned to the 92nd Bombardment Wing, Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash.

In June 1958 he was assigned with his combat crew to the 7th Bombardment Wing at Carswell Air Force Base, Texas. During this assignment General Goodman served in the Standardization and Evaluation Section and later as an operations planner in the wing's Bombing and Navigation Section. He deployed with the wing to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, in early 1965 and flew 25 B-52 bombing missions to the Republic of Vietnam before returning to Carswell.

From April 1967 to April 1968, General Goodman was assigned as a bomber operations planner with the Strategic Air Command Advanced Echelon, Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Republic of Vietnam. Upon his return from overseas, he was assigned as a planner in the Tactics Branch of the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. He became the chief of simulation and analysis, Operations Plans Division, Headquarters SAC at Offutt Air Force Base in 1971 and, in September 1973, was assigned as deputy director for operations plans, Headquarters 15th Air Force at March Air Force Base, Calif.

The general returned to Offutt Air Force Base in July 1974 as Director of Combat Plans, Single Integrated Operation Plan Division, Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff and for Strategic Air Command until June 1976. He transferred to Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Casteau, Belgium, first as chief of nuclear policy in the Plans and Policy Division, then from June 1977 to June 1979, General Goodman served as senior Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff, and later as Executive Officer to the Supreme Commander of Allied Powers in Europe, General Alexander Haig.

Following his return to the United States in September 1980, General Goodman was assigned to the Defense Intelligence Agency as Assistant Vice Director for Attaches and Training. He assumed his duties as Chief of Staff of the Defense Intelligence Agency in November 1981 and retired in 1985.

He was promoted to Brigadier General June 1, 1980, with date of rank May 30, 1980

At his retirement from active duty, he was chief of staff, Defense Intelligence Agency and commander of the United States Military Attache System. He was awarded numerous citations and medals including the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Combat Readiness Medal, The Air Force Commendation Medal, The Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, The Bronze Star Medal, The Defense Superior Service Medal, the Meritorious Service medal, and The Legion of Merit.

General and Mrs. Goodman chose to retire in Wimberley in 1991. He was a faithful servant of God and devoted to his church family, served as post commander of Veterans

of Foreign Wars Post No. 6441 in Wimberley, as well as many other committees in the community.