



## **U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Sheldon A. Goldberg (Ret.)**

Sheldon Goldberg enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve in October 1955. He transferred to the U.S. Air Force in April 1956 and served just under five years as an enlisted airman (bandsman – SAC Command Band, USAFE Command Band) before being accepted to Officer Candidate School and receiving his commission in March 1961.

Goldberg became a navigator flying transports (C-124, C-141) and later, a weapons systems officer, flying both the F-4 Phantom and the F-111 Aardvark fighters, accumulating more than 5,000 total flying hours. He flew 214 combat missions in Southeast Asia with the 497<sup>th</sup> TFS, the only night dedicated fighter squadron in the Air Force. Shortly after his return to the U.S., Goldberg then departed on what became three consecutive tours in Europe – flying F-111's at RAF Upper Heyford, UK, USAF Advisor to the Commandant, German General Staff College, Hamburg Germany, finally Air Policy Staff Officer, Hq AFCENT, Brunssum NL. Overall, he spent half his career in Europe, serving in the United Kingdom (77<sup>th</sup> TFS -F-111, 1970-75), the Netherlands (Air Policy Staff Officer for the Central Region – Hq AFCENT, 1978-81) and twice in what was then West Germany (USAFE Band 1957-60), USAF Advisor to the Commandant, German General Staff College (Hamburg, FRG, 1975-78).

Upon returning to the U.S., Goldberg was assigned to Air University, Maxwell AFB AL serving first on the faculty of Air Command and Staff College, and later the Associate School, Air War College. He retired from the Air Force on August 1, 1985.

Goldberg's medals and decorations include: the Distinguished Flying Cross with Oak Leaf Cluster and "V" for Valor, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal with 16 Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat Readiness Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with eight Campaign Stars, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. He has also been awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with three Oak Leaf Clusters and Combat "V", Air Force Longevity Ribbon with four Silver Oak Leaf Clusters, Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with Service Star, Overseas Service Ribbon (long tour), and the Federal Republic of Germany Military Achievement Badge in Gold.

Goldberg moved to Montgomery County upon his retirement from the Air Force. He attended the University of Maryland, College Park where he earned two MA's and a Ph.D.