



# Biography

## United States Air Force

COLONEL EDWIN D. GUNTER JR.

Colonel Edwin D. Gunter Jr. is the Vice Commander of Headquarters, Civil Air Patrol-United States Air Force, Maxwell AFB, Ala., the Air Force liaison organization which acts as a staff for National Headquarters, Civil Air Patrol. Civil Air Patrol is, by law, the volunteer, official civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force.

Colonel Gunter was born January 8, 1946 at Randolph AFB, Texas. He was graduated from Travis High School in Austin in 1963 and entered the United States Air Force Academy. After serving as one of four Cadet Group Commanders, he was graduated in 1967 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Management.

Following pilot training at Laughlin AFB, Texas, and follow-on training, he was assigned as a forward air controller in the III Corps area of South Vietnam. He was then selected to fly AT-28, U-17, and O-1 aircraft in a classified job, supporting the Royal Laotian Army. Colonel Gunter has 526 combat missions and more than 1,000 hours of combat time.

In February 1970, he was assigned to Peterson Field, Colo., providing flight instruction to Air Force Academy cadets in the fuel-injected T-41C. He also served as chief of Pilot Instructor Training and chief of Standardization/Evaluation.

In 1972, Colonel Gunter was transferred to Laughlin AFB, Texas, where he served as a T-38 instructor pilot, assistant flight commander, and air operations officer in the 47th Flying Training Wing.

Colonel Gunter was assigned to the 48th Security Police Squadron at RAF Lakenheath, England from 1975-1978. He served as a Shift Commander, OIC of Law Enforcement, OIC of Security, and ultimately as chief of the Operations Branch. While there, he earned a Master of Science degree.

After that tour, he flew the A-7D at England AFB, La. He was also Chief of Wing Aircrew Training Branch, 23rd Tactical Fighter Wing. While there, he participated in Red Flag and numerous operational exercises.

(Current as of June 1993)

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From 1981 to 1984, Colonel Gunter was assigned to Sheppard AFB, Texas, as an assistant operations officer in the 89th Flying Training Squadron. Later, he assumed duties as chief of Wing Standardization/Evaluation, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training program.

After serving as chief of the Operations and Safety Branch for Air Training Command Inspector General, Colonel Gunter was selected to command the 557th Flying Training Squadron at the United States Air Force Academy. From 1984 to 1986, he directed the screening, motivation, and instruction of senior cadets in the T-41C.

From 1986 to 1990, he was chief of the Readiness Division for Air Training Command Inspector General. In that position he was responsible for planning, conducting, and reporting on Operational Readiness Inspections at 13 Air Training Command bases.

Colonel Gunter then commanded the 3395th Technical Training Group at Keesler AFB, Miss. While serving in that position, he was responsible for training some 2,200 officers, enlisted, and civilians in 53 training courses including air traffic control, radar maintenance, and weather.

Prior to his arrival here August 31, 1992, Colonel Gunter served as Vice Commander, 3300th Technical Training Wing, Keesler AFB, Miss.

Colonel Gunter is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours in nine different aircraft.

His military decorations and awards include the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Air Medal with 17 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, the Small Arms Expert Marksman ribbon with star, the Presidential Unit Citation with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device and seven oak leaf clusters, the Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Bronze Star, the Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, the Royal Laotian Order of the Million Elephants and numerous service medals.

He was promoted to Colonel December 1, 1988 with the same date of rank.

Colonel Gunter is married to the former Elleen Winn of Claremore, Okla.