



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Stephanie Berry
703-416-4888 Ext 104
awards-events@naa.aero

Mark Burns, William Garvey, John King, and Martha King Selected as Distinguished Statesmen of Aviation

Washington, DC, September 26, 2018 – The National Aeronautic Association (NAA) is proud to announce the recipients of the 2018 Wesley L. McDonald Distinguished Statesman of Aviation Award: Mark Burns, William Garvey, John King, and Martha King.

The Distinguished Statesman of Aviation Award was established in 1954 by the Board of Directors of the NAA. The award honors "... outstanding Americans who, by their efforts over an extended period of years, have made contributions of significant value to aeronautics and have reflected credit upon America and themselves."

Mark Burns serves as the President of Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation and the Vice President of General Dynamics. In his role, Burns has overseen the increase in sales and production of Gulfstream aircraft, while expanding the work force to meet production goals. Burns joined Gulfstream in 1983 as a computer-aided design (CAD) operator and continued on to work in numerous segments of the organization including engineering, product support, and customer support. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA) and on the associate member advisory council of the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA).

William Garvey, editor-in-chief of Business & Commercial Aviation Magazine (BCA), is an experienced, knowledgeable, and highly accomplished communicator dedicated to serving his aviation audiences with skilled writing, a passion for aviation, and a sensitivity for market needs. Throughout his distinguished career, he has served as associate editor of Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) magazine, editor of Professional Pilot magazine, editor-in-chief of Flying magazine, senior editorial staff member at Reader's Digest, and managing editor of Aviation Week Television. Garvey has also authored numerous books, including "The Age of Flight", and freelanced with Popular Mechanics, the New York Times, Smithsonian Air and Space Magazine, and the Discovery Channel.

John and Martha King founded King Schools in 1974 in order to expand the horizons of aviation education. By combining sophisticated technology with clear, simple, and fun teaching in their video courses, John and Martha have made aviation knowledge more accessible to pilots worldwide and revolutionized the way they learn. The Kings have been champions for the cause of improving the risk management practices of general aviation pilots. They speak to thousands of pilots each year about aviation safety and have taught, inspired, and mentored millions of pilots around the world.

Members of the 2018 Distinguished Statesman of Aviation Selection Committee were: Jim Albaugh, Chairman of NAA; and former Distinguished Statesman recipients: Stephen Alterman (2017), Ali Bahrami (2017), Charles Bolden (2017), George Carneal (2009), Peggy Chabrian (2016), Carol Hallett (2003), Jack Pelton (2017), Barry Valentine (2010), Bruce Whitman (2013), and Phil Woodruff (2017).

The Distinguished Statesman of Aviation Awards will be presented at NAA's Fall Awards Ceremony on November 27, 2018 in the Washington D.C. area. For more information, please visit www.naa.aero.

The National Aeronautic Association is a non-profit membership organization devoted to fostering opportunities to participate fully in aviation activities and to promoting public understanding of the importance of aviation and space flight to the United States. NAA is the caretaker of some of the most important aviation awards in the world, and certifies all national aviation records set in the United States. For information, visit www.naa.aero.

#