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NAA Names Six Aviation Leaders as Distinguished Statesmen of Aviation

Washington, DC, September 17, 2019 – The National Aeronautic Association (NAA) is proud to announce the recipients of the 2019 Wesley L. McDonald Distinguished Statesman of Aviation Award: **Jonathan Gaffney, General David Goldfein, Michael Heuer, Mary Miller, Jean Rosanvallon, and Don Skiados.**

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."

Jonathan Gaffney for "... his 30 years of dedicated service, creating more efficient, effective, and functional organizations as a naval officer, congressional staff member, airport executive, and aviation association leader."

General David Goldfein for "... selflessly serving his country and defending democracy for over 36 years as a consummate airman and highest uniformed member of the United States Air Force."

Michael Heuer for "... his five decades of skilled and passionate leadership in air sports and aerobatics as a founding member and President of the International Aerobatic Club."

Mary Miller for "... dedicating herself to delivering world-class customer and support services to the business and private aviation community through her 40 years of leadership at Signature Flight Support."

Jean Rosanvallon for "... his 45 years of effective leadership and unrivaled record of success at Dassault Falcon Jet, overseeing numerous new products and expansion into emerging markets."

Don Skiados for "... serving the aviation industry for over 50 years as Executive Director and Director of Communications for the Air Line Pilots Association and as a resource to line pilots, union leaders, boards of directors, universities, and aviation charities."

"The 2019 Distinguished Statesmen honorees genuinely represent the full breadth of aviation and aerospace," said NAA President Greg Principato. "Each has contributed much in his or her career. More importantly, each has done a great deal to make others better. The work of a statesman, it's been said, is to represent the future to the present. All of these honorees exemplify that standard."

The members of the 2019 Distinguished Statesman of Aviation Selection Committee were: Jim Albaugh, Chairman of NAA; Former FAA Administrators Randy Babbitt, Marion Blakey, Jane Garvey and Michael Huerta; and former Distinguished Statesman recipients Stephen Alterman (2017), Anne Bridge Baddour (2002), Charles Bolden (2017), Peggy Chabrian (2016), William Garvey (2018), Carol Hallett (2003), John King (2018), Martha King (2018), Dick Koenig (2012), Jack Pelton (2017), Jeffery Shane (2014), and Matthew Zuccaro (2013).

The Distinguished Statesman of Aviation Awards will be presented at NAA's Fall Awards Ceremony on November 12, 2019 in Arlington, Virginia. 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.

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