The Eastwood Hall of Fame 2024

Lieutenant Colonel Donald Tracy Prey



Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Donald Tracy Prey graduated from Eastwood High School in 1991 and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1992. He served 12 years as an Airborne Communications Technician on the E-3 AWACS aircraft and 18 years as a nuclear missile officer operating the Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile system. Tracy logged over 4,500 flight hours and 7,000 missile alert hours during his military career. His decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Aerial Achievement Medal, Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal, and numerous other commendations and achievements. He retired from the U.S. Air Force in September 2022 after nearly 30 years of service.

Tracy holds a B.S. in Professional Aeronautics and an M.S. in Space Studies. He supports his community as a church youth director, volunteer, and Boy Scouts mentor. Tracy lives in Papillion, Nebraska with his wife Kimberly and their son Liam, where he continues to support the military as a defense sector civilian contractor with General Dynamics Mission Systems.

- 30 years in the U.S. Air Force: 12 assignments worldwide, including Europe and Asia
- Nine rank promotions: Airman (E-2) to Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)
- Alert duty: Over 4,500 flight hours (E-3 AWACS) and 7,000 missile alert hours (MMIII)
- Highly decorated: Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Aerial Achievement Medal, Combat Readiness Medal, NATO Medal, and numerous other commendations
- Educational excellence: B.S. in Professional Aeronautics (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical Univ.) and M.S. in Space Studies (American Military Univ.)
- Military awards: Nuclear Operations Officer of the Year, Field Grade Officer of the Year, and Professional Team of the Year, among many others
- Community leadership roles: Military chapel teacher, youth director, Cub/Boy Scout leader, school mentor, church elder, and VFW Post member
- Continues to support the defense industry: Current position is Director, Nuclear Command, Control, and Commutations Strategy at General Dynamics Mission Systems
- Loving husband of 28 years to Kimberly, and father of 16 years to Liam