

Brigadier General Charles “Charly” K. Shugg, USAF (Retired)

Brigadier General Charles “Charly” K. Shugg moved to Sarasota at age 12, attended Brookside Junior High School, and graduated from Riverview High School. He later accepted an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy, where he played intercollegiate football and earned dual bachelor’s degrees in economics and management in 1980.

General Shugg served more than 31 years in the U.S. Air Force. An F-15 Fighter Weapons School graduate, he held numerous senior operational and command positions, including Director of Operations for U.S. Forces Japan; Commander of the 366th Fighter Wing at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho; Commander of the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, then the Air Force’s largest combat organization in the Middle East; and Commander of the Department of Defense’s Joint Unmanned Aircraft Systems Center of Excellence.

In his final military assignment, General Shugg served as Vice Commander of the 24th Air Force. He directed activities supporting more than 16,000 personnel and helped ensure combatant commanders worldwide received trained and mission-ready cyber forces. A key architect of the Air Force’s cyberspace operations program, he helped establish Air Force Cyber Command and supported U.S. Cyber Command in reaching initial operational capability. His military honors include the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, and Legion of Merit.

Following his retirement, General Shugg became a senior partner and chief operating officer of Sylint Group, a Sarasota-based cybersecurity and digital forensics firm. He oversaw a team providing security strategy, cyber incident response, and digital forensic services to Fortune 500 companies, nonprofit organizations, and government entities. He also served as executive director of the Global Consortium for Counter Cyber Terrorism, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness and developing solutions to address the emerging threat of cyberterrorism. Sylint Group was acquired by Crowe LLP in 2024.

General Shugg continues to serve his community as a member of the Mote Marine Laboratory Presidential Advisory Council and as secretary of the Air & Space Forces Association’s Southwest Florida Chapter. He holds three master’s degrees, including a Master of Science in National Security Strategy from the National War College in Washington, D.C.

General Shugg and his wife, Susie, are the proud parents of two sons—both graduates of Florida State University—and have one grandson.