



**AERO CLUB OF WASHINGTON CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:
DONALD D. ENGEN AERO CLUB TROPHY FOR AVIATION EXCELLENCE**

NOMINATION DUE DATE: March 31, 2026

AWARD DESCRIPTION & CRITERIA:

The Aero Club of Washington was originally founded to promote the Wright Brothers and their efforts. Their initial achievement defined aviation, established excellence as a standard and placed America in a role of global preeminence. The Aero Club seeks to commemorate the Wright Brothers' historic actions by awarding an annual Trophy for Aviation Excellence.

The criteria for the Trophy are as follows:

1. A record of lifetime achievement; or a single event; or a series of acts;
2. By an individual; a team; or by a corporation or organization that reaffirms the Wright Brothers' standard of excellence in aviation.

The following are examples of the types of actions which the Aero Club seeks to reward:

1. Technological advances of national or global significance;
2. Development of aviation policy which significantly enhances the interests of passengers, shippers, employees and industry;
3. An act of extraordinary courage, professionalism, skill and intelligence which advances the science of aeronautics and/or astronautics, or saves the lives of passengers and/or the public at large;
4. A lifetime achievement of enduring value to the nation in any aviation field (academic, airline, manufacturer, media, public service, support services, etc.) which establishes a higher standard of excellence in aviation; or
5. Any other act or series of events by individual(s) which truly embodies the Wright Brothers' excellence in innovation, tenacity, insight, creativity and an essential fascination with flight.

In 1999, after the death of Admiral Don Engen, director of the National Air & Space Museum at the time, the Aero Club Board voted to present the Trophy to Don Engen posthumously. It was accepted in October 1999 by his widow, Mary Engen. The Board also voted to name the Trophy after Don Engen, and at that same luncheon, the Trophy became the "Donald D. Engen Aero Club Trophy for Aviation Excellence." The permanent Trophy resides in the National Air & Space Museum.

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE ENGEN TROPHY

1993 - Herb Kelleher, Southwest Airlines	2010 - Carl W. Vogt
1994 - Senator Wendell Ford, U.S. Senate	2011 - Jane Garvey
1995 - Edward W. Stimpson, GAMA	2012 - National Aviation Hall of Fame
1996 - Joint FAA/JAA 777 Certification Team	2013 - The Tuskegee Airmen
1997 - James A. Wilding, MWWA	2014 - Charles "Chip" Barclay
1998 - Robert Crandall, American Airlines	2015 - Will Ris
1999 - Donald D. Engen	2016 - Walter Boyne
2000 - Najeeb Halaby	2017 - J. Randolph Babbitt
2001 - L. Welch Pogue	2018 - Margaret Jenny
2002 - Alan S. Boyd	2019 - Carl Burleson
2003 - Not Awarded	2020 - Michael Quiello
2004 - Don Lopez, NASM	2021 - Linda Hall Daschle
2005 - STS-114 Discovery Shuttle Crew	2022 - Stephen Alterman
2006 - Scott Crossfield	2023 - Ambassador Carol B. Hallett
2007 - Langhorne Bond	2024 - Mark Baker
2008 - Phil Boyer	2025 - Mary Miller & Pete Bunce
2009 - William DeCota	

Below, please describe in a few paragraphs the qualifications and justification for your nominee, based on the criteria listed above. You may attach any additional information or links to articles, websites, or similar sources that will support your nomination. **Please send nomination to stephanie@aeroclub.org by March 31, 2026.**

NOMINATOR NAME:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

NOMINEE NAME:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

NOMINEE QUALIFICATIONS & JUSTIFICATION: