



## AERO CLUB OF WASHINGTON CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: NAA WRIGHT BROTHERS MEMORIAL TROPHY

**DEADLINE: April 24, 2026**

To be considered for submission by the Aero Club of Washington to the National Aeronautic Association.

### **AWARD DESCRIPTION & CRITERIA:**

The Aero Club of Washington's Board of Governors is pleased to announce that nominations are being accepted for the 2026 Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy.

The Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy is administered and presented by the National Aeronautic Association (NAA) at the Aero Club of Washington's Annual Wright Memorial Dinner in December of each year. Details about the dinner will be announced after the NAA makes its final determination for the 2026 honoree.

The Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy is awarded to a living American for "significant public service of enduring value to aviation in the United States." "Public service" is meant to include either (1) public service whether as a full-time employee of government or as an unpaid volunteer serving on a government commission or agency, or (2) service which made a major contribution of enduring value to the public. Aviation is interpreted broadly, to include aerospace activities.

Nominations are due to the Aero Club by **April 24, 2026**, and should be emailed to [stephanie@aeroclub.org](mailto:stephanie@aeroclub.org).

### **NOMINATION CRITERIA:**

The nomination must be a **PDF document limited to three (3) pages**; page layout and size and type of font may be of the writer's choosing. Attachments, reprints of articles, etc., will not be considered unless incorporated into and made part of the three pages. The nomination document should begin with **contact information for both the nominator and nominee including name, email address, mailing address, and phone number**. The body of the nomination should **include information justifying why the nominee is worthy of this award**; give complete and concise details with such background information as considered pertinent along with any other relevant information that would assist in determining the worthiness of the nominee with particular attention to the criteria above. **We also ask that you please confirm with your nominee that they are willing and able to attend the 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Wright Memorial Dinner in mid-December 2026 in Washington, DC, should they be selected as the honoree.**

## PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE NAA WRIGHT BROTHERS MEMORIAL TROPHY:

1948	Dr. William F. Durand	1986	Joseph F. Sutter
1949	Charles A. Lindbergh	1987	Allen E. Paulson
1950	Grover C. Loening	1988	Sam B. Williams
1951	Dr. Jerome Hunsaker	1989	Thomas Jones
1952	Lt Gen. James Doolittle, USAF	1990	Edwin I. Colodny
1953	Carl Hinshaw	1991	Benjamin A. Cosgrove
1954	Dr. Theodore von Karman	1992	Senator Jake Garn
1955	Dr. Hugh L. Dryden	1993	Gerhard Neumann
1956	Dr. Edward P. Warner	1994	A. L. Ueltschi
1957	Senator Stuart Symington	1995	Russell W. Meyer, Jr.
1958	Dr. John Francis Victory	1996	Frederick W. Smith
1959	William P. MacCracken, Jr.	1997	Charles H. Kaman
1960	Frederick C. Crawford	1998	Edward W. Stimpson
1961	Senator A. S. Mike Monroney	1999	Delford M. Smith
1962	John Stack	2000	Herbert D. Kelleher
1963	Donald W. Douglas, Sr.	2001	Neil A. Armstrong
1964	Henry F. Guggenheim	2002	Paul P. Poberezny
1965	Jerome Lederer	2003	Senator John Glenn
1966	Juan T. Trippe	2004	Robert Crandall
1967	Igor I. Sikorsky	2005	Edward C. "Pete" Aldridge
1968	Senator Warren C. Magnuson	2006	Norman Y. Mineta
1969	William M. Allen	2007	Eugene A. Cernan
1970	C. R. Smith	2008	Norman Augustine
1971	Senator Howard W. Cannon	2009	Steven Udvar-Hazy
1972	John H. Shaffer	2010	Harrison Ford
1973	Senator Barry M. Goldwater	2011	General Tom Stafford
1974	Dr. Richard T. Whitcomb	2012	Bob Stevens
1975	Clarence "Kelly" Johnson	2013	Marion Blakey
1976	William A. Patterson	2014	Bob Hoover
1977	Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, USAF	2015	Burt Rutan
1978	Senator Jennings Randolph	2016	Colleen Barrett
1979	T. A. Wilson	2017	General Jack Dailey
1980	Olive Ann Beech	2018	General Lloyd "Fig" Newton
1981	Dwayne L. Wallace	2019	Michael Collins
1982	Dr. Willis M. Hawkins	2020	Major General Charles Bolden
1983	J. Leland Atwood	2021	No Award
1984	David S. Lewis	2022	Colonel Eileen M. Collins
1985	Harry B. Combs	2023	Capt. Robert L. Crippen
		2024	Ben Baldanza
		2025	Joan Sullivan Garrett