



ANCC
FOUNDATION
Did You
Know?



Colonel Arthur G. Witters

Colonel Arthur George Witters graduated from the University of Florida in 1941 with a degree in Building Construction. He was commissioned a Lieutenant in Field Artillery, attended Army flight school, flew 68 missions in the European theater, was shot down twice, and received eight Air Medals. However, he is best known as the builder of the United States Air Force Academy.

After the war Colonel Witters joined the newly created U.S. Air Force. He then attended graduate school at Iowa State University in Architectural Engineering, where his master's thesis developed the initial conceptual plan for the design of the U.S. Air Force Academy. After serving as an instructor at the U.S. Military Academy, and upon Congress authorizing the funding for the Academy in 1954, Colonel Witters participated in the site selection, design and construction of the new facility and served as its first Director of Installations. For his efforts he was awarded the Legion of Merit.



Colonel Arthur G. Witters showing President Eisenhower the scale model of the USAF Academy.

Colonel Witters retired in 1965 as Chief of the Architectural Branch, Engineering Division and Deputy Director for Construction for Headquarters USAF. After retirement from the Air Force, he served from 1965 to 1970 as an architectural advisor to the Secretary of the Air Force.

At ANCC, Colonel Whitters served on the House Committee (1963-1965) where he was instrumental in the planning and execution of a major Clubhouse renovation project. Colonel Witters passed away in April 2011, just two months after the passing of his beloved wife Beverley.

Colonel Witters' legacy is honored today in two ways:

Witters Competition.

Established in 1993, the Witters Competition is endowed by Arthur G. and Beverley A. Witters for an interdisciplinary academic competition to foster better understanding among design, construction, planning and engineering students.

Each team consists of students from disciplines in the College of Design, Construction and Planning and the Wertheim College of Engineering as well as other programs at University of Florida. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to compete. As each student on

the team provides input regarding his or her part of the project, the team learns more about the other professions and the issues affecting their work.

Witters Civil Engineering Building at the USAF Academy.



On October 14, 2021, the Civil Engineering Building at the United States Air Force Academy was renamed the Whitters Civil Engineering Building.

For more information on the creation of the USAF Academy, read Colonel Witters' book "Off We Go".

