



TO HONOR

ROBERT F. McDERMOTT

BRIGADIER GENERAL, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, USMA 1943
1920-2006

Brigadier General Robert F. McDermott graduated from West Point in 1943. During World War II, he flew sixty-one combat missions in the European Theater and was awarded numerous decorations for bravery and merit. Appointed the first permanent professor at the Air Force Academy in 1957, he subsequently was named the first permanent Dean of the Faculty and served in that position from 1959 to 1968. A visionary thinker and decisive leader, he directed the successful effort to win accreditation for the Academy before the first class graduated in 1959. For his many significant innovations in cadet academic programs, he was honored as "the father of modern military education." In recognition of his singular place in Academy history, the cadet library was named in his honor in 2003. Following retirement from active duty, he served for twenty-five years as chairman and CEO of USAA, and for almost forty years as the premier civic leader in San Antonio, Texas. General McDermott died on 28 August 2006. He is survived by a large family, a legion of admirers, and a towering legacy of accomplishment.

By: The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library