

**Frank G. Brewer, Sr. CAP Memorial Aerospace Award
Lifetime Achievement Award**

Lieutenant Colonel Paul A. Willard

Virginia Wing

Lt Col Paul Willard began his CAP career in 1969 as a cadet, earning the Spaatz Award in 1972. He became a senior member and continued to support the CAP program throughout his Air Force career and as an AFJROTC Instructor for some 16 years.



As a fifty-year member of Civil Air Patrol, he has served in several wings in numerous positions and became part of the Virginia Wing aerospace education team in 2008. Under his leadership, the Wing had one third of their squadrons awarded the Aerospace Education Achievement award in FY 20. During his tenure school AEX applications were up 160% and squadron AEX completions are up 36%. ACE registrations have skyrocketed under his guidance, from four schools totaling 200 students to ten schools totaling 2,752 students.

For several years, he has worked hard to educate hundreds of eighth graders in Aerospace Education. Lt Col Willard has provided STEM kit demonstrations and hands-on flight simulator sessions for the Virginia Department of Education's "Mission Tomorrow" program, reaching more than 13,000 students. He also works with Suffolk Public Schools and Newport News Public Schools to put STEM kits into the hands of more than 1,000 students. Newport News Public Schools estimates it will produce 170 Aerospace Education Members because of the STEM kits he sent them.

The COVID-19 pandemic did not slow him down. Lt Col Willard led in conducting multiple Air Force Association CyberPatriot summer camps that resulted in 16 teams being entered into the national 2020/2021 AFA CyberPatriot competition. He also directly supported the StellarXplorers team that works with the Small Unmanned Aerial Systems program.

Lt Col Willard serves on the Advisory Committee to the Virginia Department of Education for Career and Technical Education and is a member of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.