BOB CARDENAS MONUMENT

BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERT L. CARDENAS

Campaigns

World War II, Korea, Vietnam & Cold War

Career Highlights

First Operations Officer USAAC Glider School, Twenty-Nine Palms, California.

Operations Officer, First Glider Test Base, Wilmington, Ohio. B-24 Pilot, 44th Bomb Group, Shipdham, England.

Chief of Bomber Test, Flight Test Division, Wright Field, Ohio. Chief of Flight Test Operations & Transonic Project, Muroc, AAF.

Wing Commander, 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing, Naha AB, Okinawa.

Chief of Special Operations Division, US Strike Command, Eglin AFB.

Commander 18th TFW, Kadena AFB, Okinawa.

Commander 835 Air Division, McConnell AFB, Wichita, Kansas. First Commander of USAF Special Operations Force (SOF), Hurlburt AFB, Florida.

Vice-Commander 16th Air Force, Spain.

U.S. Deputy Chief of Staff, Operation Live Oak, Mons, Belgium. Chief of the National Strategic Target List Division of the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff which produced the US Nuclear War Plan, Offutt AFB, Nebraska.

Flew more than 80 different types of aircraft:

A-20, A-26, AC-47, AT-6, AT-12, BC-1, B-17, B-24, B-25, B-26, B-29, B-34, B-47, B-50, C-46, C-47, C-54 C-73, C-97, C118, C-119, C-123, C-130, C-133, CG-4A, F-80, F-86, F-84, F-100, F-1 05, F-4, Horsa, Laister-Kauffman, LB-30, Me-262, O-1, O-2, OV-10, P-26, P-35, P-36, P-38, P-39, P-40, P-47, P-51, P-70, Polish Orlic, PT-17, PT-19, PT-22, RF-101, Schweizer TG-3, Stinson SR Reliant, T-28, T-33, U-43, XB-42, XB-43, XB-45, XB-46, XB-51, XP-59, YB-49, YB-60, Arado 234.



PIONEERING AVIATOR VISIONARY LEADER DEDICATED PATRIOT

Decorations

Air Force Distinguished Service Medal Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster Distinguished Flying Cross Purple Heart Meritorious Service Medal Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters Joint Service Commendation Medal Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster Presidential Citation Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two Oak Leaf Clusters Spanish Grand Legion of Aeronautical Merit with Sash & Dagger.

Honors

Outstanding Professional Contributions and Leadership, University of New Mexico, College of Engineering, 1993 Distinguished Alumnus, USAF Test Pilot School, Edwards Air Force Base, 1994 Inductee, International Aerospace "Walk of Honor" Monolith, Lancaster, CA, 1995 San Diego Veteran of the Year, 2002 Inductee, Air Commando Hall of Fame, 2002 "Significant Sig" Hall of Fame, Sigma Chi Fraternity, 2005 Inductee, Air and Space Museum Hall of Fame, San Diego, 2008 Air University Gathering of Eagles Honoree,

Maxwell AFB, 2012

Stainless Steel Bust on Granite.; 72"H x 24W x 24D Rendering of Work in Progress; Artist Richard Becker, NSS.

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