

**Lieutenant General Kenneth W. Schultz**  
**Inducted 2004**



Lieutenant General Kenneth W. Schultz was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1920. He received his pilot wings and was commissioned second lieutenant in the Army Air Forces in July 1942. After World War II, he attended New York University, graduating summa cum laude in 1951 with a BS degree in aeronautical engineering. He later did graduate work in engineering at Ohio State University and earned an MBA from George Washington University.

After attending the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, General Schultz reported to HQ USAF in June 1961 to serve successively as chief of the Special Systems Division, chief of the Space Development Plans Division, and deputy director in the Directorate of Development Planning. During 1961-1962, he managed the contract with ANSER Corporation to develop the initial USAF Space Plan. At the first meeting of the Gemini Program Planning Board in February 1963, he outlined three broad Defense Department objectives in the Gemini program: (1) conducting orbital experiments related to such possible future missions as inspection and interception of both cooperative and passive or non-cooperative objects in space under a variety of conditions, logistic support of a manned orbiting laboratory, and photo reconnaissance from orbit; (2) gaining military experience and training in all aspects of manned space flight; and (3) assessing the relationship between man and machine in the areas of potential military missions.

In May 1965, General Schultz became special project officer for the Deputy Chief of Staff, Research and Development, only to move across the country in July 1965 to serve as deputy for ballistic missile reentry systems for the Ballistic Systems Division at Norton AFB, California. During that assignment, he initiated acquisition of significantly improved reentry systems for Minuteman, Polaris, and Poseidon weapon systems, and he revitalized important measurement programs in support of antiballistic missile programs.

In June 1967, he became Minuteman program director, during which time he led design and development of the Minuteman III ICBM, the nation's first missile capable of carrying multiple independently targetable reentry vehicles (MIRVs). By implementing several new management controls, as well as by consolidating many existing contracts, General Schultz significantly increased the effectiveness of the program and saved millions of dollars. In 1970, he received the Eugene M. Zuckert Award for outstanding proficiency in management of the Minuteman program as well as the Air Force Association's Theodore von Karman Trophy for distinguished service in the field of aerospace science and engineering.

General Schultz served as commander of the Space and Missile Systems Organization (SAMSO) from August 1972 until his retirement from active duty on 1 September 1975. His leadership proved essential to establishment of the Global Positioning System program in 1974. In an Air University Review article titled "Swords, Plowshares, and Progress" during the early 1970s, he called for "a broad-based, consistent, systematic drive to translate our rich store of technology to civil applications." He went on to create XonTech, a science and technology firm specializing in missile defense as well as sensor and intelligence data analysis, and remained its president and CEO until Northrop Grumman acquired the company in August 2003. General Schultz died in September 2005.