

**LTG August M. Cianciolo**  
**Class of 1958**  
**Enshrined 2016**



August M. “Gus” Cianciolo was born March 11, 1936, in Covington, KY to the late Fred and Mary Cianciolo. He graduated from Xavier University in 1958 and went on to earn his master’s degree from the University of Southern California.

A Master Army Aviator, Gus helped shape Army Aviation through dedicated application of visionary leadership and management skills over a 34-year career.

His distinguished career includes two tours in Vietnam where he commanded B Battery, 2nd of the 20th Aerial Rocket Artillery (ARA) and served as the battalion S-3. During each tour his superior leadership led to his unit receiving special recognition for valorous performance. His individual bravery was also recognized with a Bronze Star for valor.

Other distinguished service included program management of two Army acquisition programs – the Standoff Target Acquisition System and the Multiple Launch Rocket System.

As the Army Staff Director of Weapons Systems, he was responsible for oversight of the development, funding, fielding and sustainment of all Army Aviation programs to include the Black Hawk, Apache, Chinook, and Kiowa Warrior. Serving as the commanding general of the Army Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal he led the development, production, and fielding of the HELLFIRE missile on attack and armed reconnaissance helicopters. Culminating his career as the Military Deputy to the Army Acquisition Executive and Director of the Army Acquisition Corps he provided management oversight of all Army acquisition programs.

General Cianciolo’s ability to work effectively with senior leaders and subordinates ensured that there was “one voice” advocating for Army Aviation. His sustained outstanding leadership established a bedrock foundation for the Army’s highly capable combat aviation systems of today and tomorrow.

Upon his retirement from active service Gus settled in Alexandria, Virginia and worked with Cypress International and later joined The SPECTRUM Group where he served as Vice Chairman of the Board.

Gus was married to his wife Sheila for 52 years, had two children, five grandchildren. Gus enjoyed all aspects of life, including his friendships, golf, aviation, and spending time with his grandchildren. Gus never lost his positive outlook on life. He died on April 4, 2011.