

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 10, 2022 CONTACT: Philip Barbour, 205-939-1700, 205-617-9007

## General Richard A. Cody, U.S. Army, Retired Named As Recipient Of 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Laura Taber Barbour Air Safety Award

## Pilar Vera Palmes Named As Honorary Recipient Of 66th Annual Laura Taber Barbour Air Safety Award

**Alexandria**, **Va.** -- The Laura Taber Barbour Air Safety Foundation is pleased to announce General Richard A. Cody, U.S. Army, Retired, as the 2022 recipient of the Laura Taber Barbour Air Safety Award and Madam Pilar Vera Palmes as an honorary recipient for her humanitarian efforts.

General Cody was selected for his strong and determined leadership of the National Commission on Military Aviation Safety, which produced actionable recommendations including permanent organizational changes to improve aviation safety across the Department of Defense.

Of major and unique significance was the creation of the Joint Safety Council, which will permanently raise the status of military operational safety to the highest levels within the Offices of the Secretary of Defense.

Pilar Palmes was selected for her extraordinary international humanitarian efforts in support of the victims of aviation accidents and their families over the last decade.

Following the tragic loss of a loved one on Spanair Flight JK5022 in 2008, Pilar Palmes turned her grief into advocacy for the rights of surviving passengers and that of the families of those lost. In 2010 she became President of the Association of Affected of Flight JK5022, expanding her scope. In 2015 she created the Air Crash Victims Families Federation International (ACVFFI), an international organization composed of ten victims associations from different international accidents.

ACVFFI is now recognized by the International Civil Aviation Organization as the singular voice for victims and their families."

The 66<sup>th</sup> annual Laura Taber Barbour Air Safety Award recipients were announced Monday, November 7th as part of the 75th annual Flight Safety Foundation International Air Safety Summit in Atlanta, Georgia.

## About the Laura Taber Barbour Air Safety Foundation and Award

On April 14, 1945, after visiting family in Pittsburgh, Mrs. Laura Taber Barbour was aboard a Pennsylvania Central Airlines DC-3 when it crashed into the rugged terrain of Cheat Mountain near Morgantown, West Virginia. All passengers and crew were killed. In 1956, her husband, Dr. Clifford E. Barbour and son, Cliff, established the Award in her honor. For sixty-six years, this long distinguished award has recognized those responsible for crowning achievements in aviation safety worldwide.

The Award was established through early association with the Flight Safety Foundation and from its founding has enjoyed a rich history of Award Board members, nominees and Award recipients. In 2013, the Laura Taber Barbour Air Safety Foundation was formed from members of the Award Committee, the aviation community and the Barbour family. As the foundation plans to broaden the scope of its intent, with great purpose, the Laura Taber Barbour Air Safety Award will continue to spotlight those champions who pioneer breakthroughs in flight safety. For more information on the foundation, the award, Barbour scholars and past winners, visit <u>http://LTBAward.org</u>

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