



## ENGINEER OF THE YEAR 1984 **H.B. "BUZZ" HENDERSON**

H.B. "Buzz" Henderson is currently the Corporate Manager of General Dynamics Corporation's Field Office covering the Tidewater area and located in Hampton, Virginia. This office interfaces in all disciplines, i.e., technical, engineering, contract negotiations, marketing, sales analysis, strategic planning and basic product support and customer relations with all major government agencies in the Tidewater area. These include the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, U.S. Army and NASA.

Mr. Henderson was born in Pahala, Hawaii. He attended school in Selby, England, Santa Ana, California, and Hardin, Montana. He started his college and military career in the Navy V-1/V-12 program at the University of Colorado in 1943, majoring in Aeronautical Engineering. After a term flying f6f "Hellcats" off the "USS Shangrila" in WW II Buzz completed his college education at the University of Southern California.

Buzz was recalled to active duty during the Korean War and flew F-6F's, F4U's and F9F-2's on the carrier USS Bon Homme Richard. After eight months of combat Buzz was assigned to Navy's Jet training unit flying Air Force P-80 "Shooting Stars".

In 1955 Buzz joined the Convair Division of General Dynamics Corporation as a test pilot on the Air Force F-102 Fighter Interceptor Program. He flew engineering flight tests through the entire F-102 program and most of the subsequent F-106 Mach 2 Fighter Interceptor program. This included structural and maximum performance flight tests.

Buzz left flight test and went to General Dynamics Corporate Office in Washington, D.C. as an Air Force representative and became fully responsible for the TFX (F-111) program in that arena. He subsequently became manager of Aeronautical Systems until coming to the Peninsula in April 1967 in his current position.

Buzz has been active in many local organizations including, AFA, AIAA, Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts, ECVF, NSIA, AFCEA, VETS, and as Dinner/Dance chairman of the Tidewater Engineers week Committee.