

James Patrick Peak passed away on Monday, May 11, 2020 in Ashburn, VA after over half a century of service to his country in both the public and private sectors. Jim served in the USAF Security Service from 1961 to 1965 beginning with an intensive Chinese language school at Yale followed by service as a voice intercept operator in Texas and Florida as well as on-board SIGINT collection aircraft and a SIGINT collection ship off of Cuba. After his military service he was hired into the Technical Intelligence Exploitation (TIE) division of FTD in 1965 and worked on the Astronautics Team for Don Baechtel. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Dayton in 1972. In 1973-74 he successfully completed the first postgraduate class aimed at awarding a Master of Science in Strategic Intelligence at the Defense Intelligence School (now the Defense Intelligence University). He left FTD and government employment in 1977 to work for The BDM Corporation in McLean, VA, for the next eight years. The team he led there fulfilled contracts for many government organizations including DIA, CIA, FTD, DNA, EUCOM, PACOM, and RADC, and he eventually became an Assistant Vice President at BDM. After serving in a special advisory role to USAFE Intelligence in Germany in the early 1980s and at the behest of the new DIA commander, General Leonard Perroots, Jim returned to government service in 1985 in the Senior Executive Service as the Defense Intelligence Officer for General Purpose Forces. He served for five years in that position and several more years in DIA as the DoD Director of Collection Management. In 1996 he took the first of several intelligence community assignments as the first Director of the Intelink Management Office (IMO). In 1999 he received AFCEA's Charlie Allen Award for Distinguished Intelligence Service for his groundbreaking efforts at IMO. He then served as Chief of the Treaty Monitoring Center within the DCI's Arms Control Intelligence Staff and as a Special Assistant to the ADCI for Military Support. After his retirement in 2000, Jim continued to work for several companies and participated on a number of high-level advisory panels until 2015 and was instrumental in the creation of the National Counter-Terrorism Center (NCTC). He self-taught himself Arabic to better understand the new-age adversaries. He also served as a volunteer at Dulles International Airport assisting travelers where his proficiency in five languages--Chinese, Russian, Spanish, German and Arabic, made him especially valuable. Jim is survived by his wife of 53 years, Susan, his son Jason, daughter-in-law Donna and granddaughter Cassidy. A memorial announcement will be made later. Donations can be made in Jim's name to the American Cancer Society or the National Kidney Foundation if desired."