



# BIOGRAPHY



## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

### LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN T. "TOM" SHERIDAN

Lt. Gen. John T. "Tom" Sheridan is the Commander, Space and Missile Systems Center, Air Force Space Command, Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif. He is responsible for managing the research, design, development, acquisition, and sustainment of space and missile systems, launch, command and control, and operational satellite systems. He is responsible for more than 6,500 employees nationwide and an annual total budget in excess of \$12 billion. General Sheridan is the Air Force Program Executive Officer for Space and is responsible for the Air Force Satellite Control Network; space launch and range programs; the Space-Based Infrared System Program; military satellite communication programs; the Global Positioning System; intercontinental ballistic missile programs; Defense Meteorological Satellite Program; the space superiority system programs and other emerging transformational space programs.



General Sheridan graduated from the University of Connecticut in 1973 with a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering. He completed the university's Air Force ROTC program as a distinguished graduate. Following an educational delay to earn a Master of Business Administration degree from Bryant College in Rhode Island, he entered active duty in August 1975.

General Sheridan's experience includes acquisition leadership of aircraft, simulator and classified space programs; requirements development across all Air Force space programs; and operational leadership in four different national space programs. He has served as military assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space, Commandant of Air Command and Staff College, Director of Requirements at Headquarters Air Force Space Command, and most recently as the Deputy Director of the National Reconnaissance Office.

#### EDUCATION

1973 Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering, University of Connecticut  
1975 Master of Business Administration degree, Bryant College, Smithfield, R.I.  
1978 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.  
1983 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence  
1988 Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va.  
1992 Defense Systems Management College, Fort Belvoir, Va.  
1994 Air War College, by correspondence  
1996 Master of Science degree in resource strategy, and Senior Acquisition Course, National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.  
2003 Senior Executive Program in National and International Security, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

2005 U.S. Navy Executive Business Course, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif.

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. August 1975 - August 1979, simulator and training systems engineer, Airborne Warning and Control System Program Office, Hanscom AFB, Mass.
2. September 1979 - September 1982, air vehicle and propulsion engineer, NATO Airborne Early Warning Program, Brunssum, Netherlands
3. October 1982 - July 1987, Chief of Satellite Operations, later, Chief, Ground Systems Division, Operating Division 4, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Sunnyvale Air Force Station, Calif.
4. August 1987 - January 1988, student, Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va.
5. February 1988 - June 1991, Director of Operations, Space Systems Division, Detachment 1, Arlington, Va.
6. July 1991 - January 1992, Program Manager, Advanced Systems Program Office, Space and Missile Systems Center, Los Angeles, Calif.
7. January 1992 - June 1992, student, Defense Systems Management College, Fort Belvoir, Va.
8. July 1992 - June 1994, Deputy Chief, Space Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence Division, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
9. July 1994 - June 1995, military assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space, Washington, D.C.
10. July 1995 - July 1996, student, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
11. August 1996 - April 2000, Group Commander, Directorate of Projects, Operating Division 2, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, England
12. May 2000 - June 2002, Commandant, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
13. June 2002 - May 2005, Director of Requirements, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Peterson AFB, Colo.
14. June 2005 - July 2006, Program Executive Officer and System Program Director for Space Radar, Chantilly, Va.
15. July 2006 - May 2008, Deputy Director, National Reconnaissance Office, and Program Executive Officer and System Program Director for Space Radar, Chantilly, Va.
16. May 2008 - present, Commander, Space and Missile Systems Center, and Program Executive Officer for Space, Los Angeles AFB, Calif.

### **BADGES**

Master Space Badge  
Master Acquisition Badge

### **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Defense Superior Service Medal with oak leaf cluster  
Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster  
Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters  
Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters  
Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters  
National Defense Service Medal  
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

### **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant May 13, 1973  
First Lieutenant June 6, 1976  
Captain June 6, 1978  
Major Oct. 1, 1985  
Lieutenant Colonel Nov. 1, 1990  
Colonel Aug. 1, 1996  
Brigadier General Jan. 1, 2002  
Major General Oct. 1, 2005  
Lieutenant General May 16, 2008

(Current as of May 2008)