



Office of the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1670

January 17, 2024

Wingmen,

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the death of Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, retired, Robert “Bob” D. Gaylor. CMSAF Gaylor passed away at home on January 17, 2024, at the age of 93.

CMSAF Gaylor served as the fifth Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force from August 1, 1977, until his retirement on July 31, 1979. Throughout his long and distinguished career, CMSAF Gaylor held numerous key positions including military training instructor, senior enlisted advisor for Second Air Force, and senior enlisted advisor for U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

CMSAF Gaylor was a patriot of unparalleled honor and dignity. He devoted more than 75 years of his life, both in uniform and out, to actively serving our Airmen and their families. He also brought his weekly “Wednesday with the Chief” videos to audiences worldwide, selflessly dedicating his time to the institution he loved so dearly.

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gaylor was an American Airman who led a life of purpose and defined an era in our Air Force. His legacy, art of storytelling, and passion for service will live in all of us for years to come. CMSAF #5 will be deeply missed by all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joanne S. Bass'.

JOANNE S. BASS
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force