

NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

14675 Lee Road
Chantilly, VA 20151-1715

Director's Announcement

5 January 2009

MR. DENNIS FITZGERALD

It is with the greatest sorrow that I must inform you of the passing of our dear friend and colleague, Mr. Dennis Fitzgerald. Dennis passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday morning, 31 December 2008.

Dennis had dedicated 33 years of government service to our nation upon his retirement from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in April of 2007. He contributed significantly to the Intelligence Community and the Department of Defense while serving in a variety of key leadership positions, including as our first Principal Deputy Director of the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), the Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force (Intelligence Space Technology), the Director of the CIA's Office of Development and Engineering, Directorate for Science and Technology, and the Associate Deputy Director for Science and Technology.

Dennis Fitzgerald was a superb engineer, manager, leader, mentor and friend. He was a role model for all of us in his passionate dedication to engineering and acquisition excellence, and the protection of our national security. He continued to have a tremendous positive impact on the NRO and its workforce following his retirement, as he answered the call to duty once again while designing and standing up the NRO University and advising NRO senior management on a multitude of current issues. His legacy lives on in the systems he put on orbit and the service he inspired in the NRO workforce.

A viewing is planned for Monday, 5 January 2009, from 1 to 4 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m. at Adams Green Funeral Home, 721 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia. Messages of condolence can be posted online at www.adamsgreen.com. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent to the Reedville Fishermen's Museum, P.O. Box 306, Reedville, Virginia, 22539. Please specify that the donation is in memory of Dennis Fitzgerald.

We will also hold a Memorial Service here at the NRO in the coming weeks to honor Dennis.

I know I speak for the entire NRO family in offering our heartfelt condolences to Dennis's wife, Debby, and their extended family. Dennis will be sorely missed by us all.

/signed/
Scott F. Large