



# Flight Test Historical Foundation

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## Buzz Aldrin to present

### Excellence in Aviation Awards May 14

Edwards Air Force Base Flight Test Historical Foundation  
to honor Aviators, Businesses

**Edwards Air Force Base, CA, April 15, 2011** – Astronaut Buzz Aldrin will present honors to three Aviation luminaries in a special program on May 14 that will benefit the Edwards Air Force Base Flight Test Center Museum. The Flight Test Historical Foundation will honor Robert Gilliland, test pilot; Jens K. Neelsen, business leader and supporter of the Foundation; and Frank Robinson, founder and recently retired CEO of Robinson Helicopters. Gilliland will receive the Excellence in Aviation, Lifetime Achievement Award; Robinson will receive the Excellence in Aviation Business Award and Neelsen will receive the Friend of the Foundation Award.

Aldrin, Apollo XI Astronaut and former commandant of the Edwards Air Force Base Test Pilot School, will present the awards at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Aviation Awards Dinner on Saturday, May 14, 2011 at the Proud Bird restaurant, 11022 Aviation Boulevard, Los Angeles. Ken Wolt will serve as master of ceremonies. The formal program will be followed by dancing to the music of Grammy award winner Barbara Morrison and the Morrison Jazz Quartet courtesy of Blue Lady Records and Pancho Barnes Enterprises. The event begins at 6 pm. Tickets are \$125 per person and can be ordered online at [www.edwardsmuseum.org](http://www.edwardsmuseum.org) or by telephone at 877-358-8378.

"It is our privilege to honor these aviation leaders," noted Lisa Gray, chairperson of the Flight Test Historical Foundation. "The funds raised at this event will help us to build a new museum outside the west gate of Edwards Air Force Base." The chairmen for the dinner are Dr. Louis F. D'Elia and Dr. Keith Jamieson, Directors of the Flight Test Historical Foundation.

*Biographies of Col. Aldrin and the three honorees are attached.*

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