



**JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS - COLORADO**  
COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD  
6848 SOUTH REVERE PARKWAY,  
CENTENNIAL, COLORADO 80112-6709

27 April 2023

Office of The Adjutant General

NGAUS Awards Program  
One Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Awards Team:

It is my distinct honor to nominate Lt Col (Ret) Ronald J. Oestreich for the National Guard Association of the United States' Meritorious Service Award for his contributions to the Colorado National Guard, the National Guard Association of Colorado (NGACO), and the National Guard Association of the United States.

Lt Col (Ret) Oestreich's impact on the organization spans over 32 years of combined service, with eight years as a retiree, four years as NGACO Officer Vice President, and over seven years as the President of NGACO. Through his leadership as the President of NGACO, the organization experienced tremendous growth in the critical areas of membership, sponsorship, and relevance as a state who could successfully host a NGAUS General Conference and Exhibition. Lt Col (Ret) Oestreich's key contributions include the host state association President for the 141<sup>st</sup> General Conference in Denver, his company-grade, warrant officer and junior enlisted membership initiatives which resulted in tangible membership growth and volunteerism, and his networking for corporate partners and sponsorships that continue to this day.

Lt Col (Ret) Oestreich continues to be a champion of service and dedication to the Colorado National Guard. He has left a true legacy and his importance to our organization is immeasurable. Lt Col (Ret) Oestreich is a deserving choice for the prestigious Meritorious Service Award. On behalf of the Colorado National Guard and citizens of the great State of Colorado, I proudly present this nomination with my highest personal endorsement.

Sincerely,

Laura L. Clellan  
Brigadier General, COARNG  
The Adjutant General



## Individual Award Nomination Form

Point of Contact: [awards@ngaus.org](mailto:awards@ngaus.org)

**Nomination Deadline:** May 15

Award Nominated to Receive: Meritorious Service Award

Nominated By: BG Scott M. Sherman, Director of Joint Staff, Colorado National Guard

Name/Rank/Duty/Title/ Organization or Unit of Assignment of Nominee:

Ronald J. Oestreich, Lt Col (Ret), Colorado Air National Guard

Years in the National Guard: 17

Justification for Award:

Lt Col (Ret) Ronald J. Oestreich retired as a Lieutenant Colonel with the Colorado Air National Guard in 2015. Ron is a career Life member of the National Guard Association of Colorado and NGAUS and has over 24 years of service to our country.

Lt Col (Ret) Oestreich became the President of the National Guard Association of Colorado in 2015. He served in this role until BG (Ret) Michael Willis took over in 2022. Lt Col (Ret) Oestreich continues to assist the President and Board of Directors with any requests of support or advice. Of special note, Lt Col (Ret) Oestreich was instrumental as the NGACO President and Conference Operations Chair for the 141st General Conference and Exhibition in Denver in 2019.

To address a few of the many initiatives and accomplishments the National Guard Association of Colorado had under his leadership as President:

- Increased NGACO membership year over year.
- Helped convince the Colorado Legislature to fully fund State Tuition Assistance for all Colorado National Guard members.
- Was instrumental in connecting NGACO and its members to the Colorado State Legislature.

Justification for Award (continued):

- Focused his membership and participation efforts on the company grade, warrant officer and junior enlisted ranks to develop generational board and volunteer association members.
- Staffed and supported numerous events for NGACO resulting in ever-increasing awareness of the mission and effectiveness of NGACO and NGAUS.
- Engaged Colorado community leaders and organizations to support and donate funds for the 141st General Conference and Exhibition.
- Oversaw the NGACO insurance program resulting in significant insurance benefits programs to members and their families.

Lt Col (Ret) Ronald J. Oestreich is a lifelong supporter of the National Guard and the defense of our Nation. His many years of service to the mission of the National Guard was demonstrated not only by his military service, but also his extensive leadership and involvement in the NGACO and NGAUS. He tirelessly demonstrated care for the National Guard and its members as the President of NGACO. His dedicated and exemplary service to our State, NGACO, NGAUS and our Nation is greatly appreciated and will not be forgotten.

Proposed Citation:

For Superior Meritorious service of over 23 years to the United States Air Force, 17 years to the Colorado Air National Guard, and over 25 years of service to the National Guard Association of Colorado. Lt Col (Ret) Ronald J. Oestreich served with distinction and honor as a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Air Force and as the President of the National Guard Association of Colorado. His steadfast loyalty, integrity and consummate reliability earned him the highest level of trust and dedication from those that served and worked with him. As the President of the National Guard Association of Colorado, Lt Col (Ret) Oestreich was instrumental in revitalizing the Association and hosting the 141st General Conference in Denver, Colorado. His efforts and dedication reflect great credit upon himself, the Colorado National Guard and the National Guard Association of the United States.