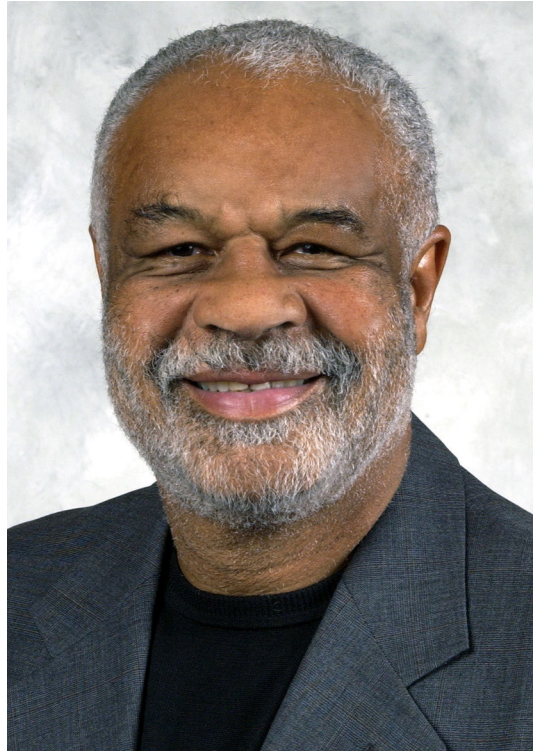


Fletcher “Flash” Wiley (Navy Prep ’61, USAFA ’65)

Fletcher “Flash” Wiley was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1942 and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana where he was a charter member of the “Gifted Child Program” by the Indianapolis Public Schools and the only African-American in his class. He was recruited by the United States Air Force Academy in 1960 and became the first African-American from the State of Indiana appointed to a military academy, as well as the school’s first African-American football player. As an athlete, he gained the nickname “Flash,” and in 1965, became the fifth African-American graduate of the Air Force Academy and the Academy’s first black Fulbright



Scholar. Wiley was roommate to Captain Lance Sijan, who received the Medal of Honor for his heroic evasion and resistance against the North Vietnamese.

Wiley completed his Fulbright fellowship in international relations at L’Institut Des Etudes Politiques at the University of Paris in France. He served in the Air Force in D.C., at the Pentagon, and in Seoul Korea until his honorable discharge in December 1969. In 1974, following his service as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force, he received both his M.P.P. degree from Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government and his J.D. degree from Harvard Law School. Wiley served as Director of USAFA’s Association of Graduates and was the Founder and Chairman of the NEAOG.

For almost four decades, Wiley has been a leader in the Massachusetts legal and business communities, practicing in the areas of corporate and commercial law, small business development, entertainment law, and real estate. Wiley’s commitment to diversity and inclusion is shown through his many leadership roles within minority-focused organizations. Wiley has been recognized over 50 times

for his professional achievements and his laudable commitment to service, including:

- induction into the 2010 “Academy of Distinguished Bostonians,”
- appointment to the Board of Visitors of The Air University by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates in 2011,
- appointment to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Air Force Academy by President Barack Obama in 2012,
- induction into the USAFA Prep School Hall of Fame in 2015, and
- proclamation of “Flash Wiley Day” by the Mayor of Boston in 2018.

It is with great pleasure that the Eastern Massachusetts USAFA Families Club welcomes Flash and his wife Bennie to the Holly Ball!