

Brig. Gen. William E. Haymes, Sr.
Danville, Virginia



Inducted in 1982, General Haymes was credited with being the architect of the modern Virginia Air National Guard. He joined the Virginia Army Guard in 1936 and in 1942 joined the Air Corps where he earned his pilot's wings. He flew P-39s and P-40s in the Pacific during WWII and was credited with one air-to-air victory. In 1953 he was released from active duty to reorganize the Virginia Air National Guard. General Haymes served as Commander of the 192nd Group and HQ Virginia Air Guard Chief of Staff before retiring in 1961 as the Virginia Air National Guard's first general officer.