

Richard L. "Dick" Sula was born in 1940 in Chicago Illinois, and grew up in the neighboring suburb of Villa Park. He graduated from York High School in 1958 and graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1963. Col Sula was commissioned a second lieutenant, and earned his navigator wings in 1964

Col Sula's operational assignments included tours at Tavis AFB, California and Charleston AFB, South Carolina navigating C-124 and C-121 transport aircraft on world-wide missions. During his Southeast Asia tour in Thailand and the Republic of Vietnam (1972 – 1973), he flew 103 combat missions as a navigator and sensor operator aboard AC-119K "Stinger" gunships.

Major Air Command assignments include a tour at HQ Air training Command (ATC) at Randolph AFB, Texas, where he managed the computer configurations of all 16 ATC bases from 1973 to 1975.

In 1979, he was assigned to HQ Military Airlift Command at Scott FB, Illinois as a war plans automation officer, and subsequently, as the Chief of the War Plans Analysis Division.

Following his promotion to Colonel in 1985, he served as the Base Commander at McGuire ADB, New Jersey, and in 1986, assumed the same position for over 2 years at Charleston AFB, South Carolina.

Colonel Sula's final assignment was the Professor of Aerospace Science {AFROTC} at Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont. He retired in 1991, a Master Navigator with almost 6,000 flying hours. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Five Air Force Meritorious Service Medals, eleven air Medals, and two Air Force Commendation Medals.

Colonel Sula earned his teaching degree and taught Social Studies at Wolf Branch Middle School in Swansea, Illinois for 4 years.

He and his wife, Diane, moved to Kiawah Island, South Carolina in 1997 where they were active with the Turtle Patrol, President of the Kiawah Island Community Association, played golf and enjoyed the visits from two grandsons, Trevor and Jacob.

Dick was preceded in death by his parents, Laddie J. and Marie Sula and his brother, Kenneth C. Sula,

He is survived by his wife, Diane of 58 years, sons Richard L Sula Jr. of Olathe, Ks and Scott P Sula of Valrico, Florida. He is also survived by two grandchildren, Jacob R and Trevor J Sula.