## **2021 Armed Forces Celebration Luncheon**

by Ken Philippart Images by CoC and Lisa Philippart



The Greater Huntsville Section participated in the 2021 Armed Forces Celebration Luncheon at the Von Braun Center on August 4. The luncheon has usually been celebrated during the Huntsville community's week long commemoration of Armed Forces Week in June. Due to the pandemic, however, the event was delayed this year. This year marked the fourth

time that Greater Huntsville has been represented at Huntsville's premier event celebrating members of the armed forces in our community.

.Despite the pandemic, more than 800 people attended the luncheon, hosted annually by the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce (CoC). Mr. Jeff Gronberg, CoC Chair, emceed the event. Dignitaries included Mayors Tommy Battle and Paul Findlay, Alabama congressional representatives, Marshall Space Flight Director Jodie Singer and Lieutenant

General Flem "Donnie" Walker, Deputy Commanding General of US Army Materiel Command (AMC).

AIAA was represented by Zach Courtright, Lt Col (retired) Ken and Lisa Philippart, and Mike Reynolds.

Active duty military members and veterans were asked to stand and be recognized. They received an ovation for their service.



Lisa & Ken Philippart, Mike Reynolds and Zach Courtright enjoy the luncheon.



Lieutenant General Walker giving the keynote

LTG Walker gave the keynote address. He recognized the community contributions of several departed Team Redstone civilian and military members and talked in detail about their achievements. LTG Walker also thanked the Huntsville-Madison community for being such strong supporters of the military and Redstone Arsenal and for making north Alabama such a great place to be stationed.

The Greater Huntsville Section salutes our military members and their families!