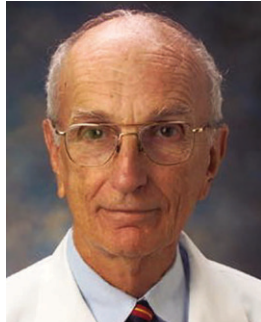


## In Memoriam: Frank Pettyjohn

AsMA Headquarters staff were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Dr. Frank Pettyjohn, a Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association, in early December. A native of



Delaware, Dr. Pettyjohn graduated in 1956 from the University of Delaware with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. He subsequently entered the U.S. Army as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers. Following a tour in Korea, he returned to attend Hahnemann University School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, graduating in 1963 with an M.D. degree. After an internship at

Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, WA, he attended the U.S. Navy School of Aviation Medicine and then the U.S. Army School of Aviation. He received his designation as a Naval Flight Surgeon and an Army Flight Surgeon and served his initial Flight Surgeon tour at Simmons Army Airfield, Fort Bragg, NC.

Dr. Pettyjohn then served in Vietnam as a Flight Surgeon for the 17<sup>th</sup> Combat Aviation Group in 1966. Upon his return, he entered internal medicine residency training at Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, WA. He then began initial residency training in aerospace medicine as a Post Doctoral Fellow in Public Health Preventive Medicine at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA. He returned to Madigan Army Medical Center to complete a Fellowship in Cardiology. He completed his residency in aerospace medicine at Brooks Air Force Base in 1973. During 1973, he served as Cardiologist and Flight Surgeon for Operation Homecoming to return Vietnam POWs to the United States. He joined the U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory at Fort Rucker, AL, in 1973. During his research there, he joined the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine, where he served as Chancellor from 1998-2003, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President in 2003-2005, and President in 2005-2007.

In 1977, Dr. Pettyjohn became Deputy Commander/Chief, Professional Services, at the U.S. Army Aeromedical Center and Lyster Army Community Hospital, Fort Rucker, AL. He also served as the Commander, U.S. Army Aeromedical Activity. In 1980, he moved to the Naval Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory in Pensacola, FL, as Director of the Applied Aeromedical Research Program. In 1982, he became Commanding Officer, U.S. Army Medical Department Activity and Winn Army Community Hospital, Fort Stewart, GA. In 1985, he returned to the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute in Pensacola, FL, as Cardiologist and Army Liaison Officer until 1986, when he joined the University of South Alabama College of Medicine, Mobile, AL, as a Professor. He was Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine for the University of South Alabama Medical Center. He also served as a Cardiology Consultant to the Federal Aviation Administration and as the Medical Director of the Emergency Medical Services Department of Education, College of Allied Health and Professions for the University of South Alabama. Additionally, he was the

Medical Director for the Gulf Coast Region VI Emergency Medical Services.

Dr. Pettyjohn was recalled to the U.S. Army in 1991 as a Cardiologist and Aviation Medicine Consultant at the U.S. Army Aeromedical Center during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He was a member of the team that returned the U.S. POWs from Desert Storm to the United States. In December 2008, he again returned to active duty in the U.S. Army as a Flight Surgeon and Cardiologist with the 345<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital in Tikrit, Iraq. He returned to the University of South Alabama in 2009. He retired as a Professor Emeritus in 2017.

Dr. Pettyjohn's military awards included the Combat Medical Badge, the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, U.S. Army Commendation Medal, U.S. Navy Commendation Medal, and U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal. He was the first recipient of AsMA's John Ernsting Award for his long career in aerospace medicine in 2010. He was a member of the Civil Aviation Medical Association and the U.S. Navy Aerospace Medicine Residency Advisory Committee. He served on the Executive Council of AsMA from 1979-1982. He was a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology, the American College of Physicians, and the American College of Chest Physicians. He also served as a reviewer for Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine (now known as Aerospace Medicine and Human Performance), AsMA's journal.

## AsMA Mentioned in News Report

The Aerospace Medicine Association (AsMA) was mentioned in a report on CBS's Nightly News. The story was on an 11-year-old girl who had an allergic reaction during a flight. The airline did not have an EpiPen in their Emergency Medical Kit (EMK), though they did have epinephrine. Fortunately, there was a doctor on the flight who was able to measure out the dose needed and gave it to the girl. AsMA's recommendations that airline EMKs carry additional items such as auto-injectors and pediatric doses of epinephrine is mentioned a few paragraphs down. The story goes on to discuss what each of seven major airlines said about their EMKs. The full article can be found at <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/in-flight-emergencies-airlines-medical-kit-requirements/>.

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