



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY**

11 April 2023

Dear Families and Friends of the Class of 2023,

On behalf of the United States Air Force Academy community, I am thrilled to extend my congratulations on your cadet's upcoming graduation!

The Class of 2023 persevered through challenges during an historic pandemic that required tremendous resilience and flexibility at our Academy. Despite the unique circumstances they faced, this class stepped up and led the Cadet Wing lifting one another up through the hardships. With grit and discipline, they were tested in the classroom, within their squadrons, and on the athletic fields. Their experiences shaped them as Leaders of Character ready to impact our Air and Space Force far into the future.

In addition to the many events offered during the week, my wife, Amy, and I would like to invite you and your guests to a reception in honor of your graduate at the Carlton House on Monday, May 29, 2023. It will be our pleasure to extend our personal congratulations to you and your cadet. Please visit <https://www.usafa.edu/graduation/> for more detailed information on the entire week's festivities.

To end our week of celebration, please join me in Falcon Stadium on the June 1, 2023, when the 65th graduating class of the United States Air Force Academy will receive their diplomas and commission as second lieutenants. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the class will be honored with an exciting performance by the Air Force Thunderbirds. Graduating cadets will receive 20 tickets to distribute to their family, friends and supporters to attend the ceremony. Each graduate may also bring 6 guests to the Graduation Parade on May 31. We know your cadets did not reach this accomplishment alone and we look forward to celebrating with you.

Great challenges await and I am confident our newest officers will become the leaders our country demands with skills focused on innovation, excellence and dignity and respect. On behalf of the Secretary of the Air Force, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the Chief of Space Operations, and our entire Academy community, thank you for all you have done in support of your cadet. We look forward to celebrating the extraordinary accomplishments of these outstanding Leaders of Character.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Richard M. Clark".

RICHARD M. CLARK
Lieutenant General, USAF
Superintendent