

Col. Powley receives aviation recognition

From Staff Reports

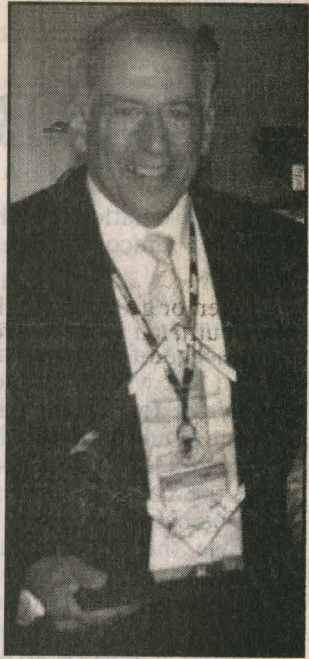
Lt. Col. Bill Powley, USAF, ret. was recently presented the prestigious Career Contributions to Aviation Excellence Award by the Tennessee Aeronautics Commission.

The award is given to individuals who have set an example for others through leadership, dedication, persistence and an overall commitment to excellence.

Powley built an aviation program in Unicoi County where no airport exists. He founded the Flight Lessons Instructional Grants Helping Teens program.

FLIGHT provides funding for the aerospace education program at Unicoi County High School. Powley has helped over 4,700 students take orientation flights and soloed 96 cadets from 1996 to present.

The award was presented at the 26th annual Tennessee Airports Conference on Aug. 18 in Nashville. The conference is hosted by the Tennessee Aeronautics



Lt. Col. Bill Powley

Division.

Powley was a fighter pilot in the Air Force and is twice a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross. In 2010 he received the coveted 24th annual A. Scott Crossfield Aerospace Education Teacher of the Year Award during the National Aviation Hall of Fame President's Dinner in Dayton, Ohio.