

## Ed Rafalko

Edmund "Ed" Rafalko, friend of UNT, retired in 1977 from the U.S. Air Force as a Major General.

Ed Rafalko graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in June of 1945, after completing an accelerated three year program. He graduated as a second lieutenant with a Bachelor of Science degree and his pilot rating. In the early 1960's he earned his Master of Arts degree from George Washington University. In 1963, then Colonel Rafalko began a four-year assignment as the Director of Athletics at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado.

While at West Point he earned letters in football, basketball and baseball and played as the starting end on Army's first National Championship football team in 1944. Later in 2004, he attended the Football Hall of Fame dedication of the sculpture in honor of legendary West Point Coach Earl Blaik.

While in the Air Force, General Rafalko accumulated more than 7,000 hours of flying in both reciprocating and jet-engine aircraft and earned a command pilot rating. Before retiring he commanded the Ogden Air Logistics Center, a 4 billion dollar enterprise employing more than 18,000 people. Currently, he serves on the Board of the Aviation Heritage Association and is an Advisor to the Fort Worth Air Power Council.

