

# The Modeling and Simulation Community has lost a true Champion, Friend & Patriot

By Peggy Gravitz

*We recognize the passing of William F. (Bill) Waite, a true pioneer and champion of Modeling and Simulation (M&S). But, Bill was much more.*



He was a great friend, a caring mentor and instrumental leader so very dear to his family and colleagues; simply, Bill was truly an extraordinary person. He co-founded The Aegis Technologies Group, Inc. (AEGIS), a privately held aerospace and defense small business that grew under his leadership to over 300 persons. Bill tirelessly worked to raise the national and international awareness of M&S technology over the last 25 years. He transformed the industry's ability to collaborate and communicate by promoting the establishment of industry forums like the Alabama M&S Council (AMSC) and the Virginia

M&S Partnership (VMSP). He took this concept to a national and international scale, birthing the idea and supporting the full implementation of the international SimSummit Round Table and the National M&S Coalition (NM&SC). He twice led the Society for M&S International (SCSI) as Chairman of its Board of Directors, and he served twice on the Executive Committee of the Simulation Interoperability Standards Organization (SISO). Bill was also active in the National Training and Simulation Association (NTSA) and served the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) as a member of its Board of Trustees. He was instrumental in working

with the Congressional M&S Caucus in establishing House Resolution 487 that recognized M&S as a National Critical Technology. Bill was extremely active in promoting the M&S profession, workforce, industry and market and was impassioned about M&S education. He toiled to establish Masters and PhD programs in M&S at several universities including the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), University of Central Florida (UCF), Old Dominion University and the Naval Post Graduate School and was an influential, active member of the M&S Professional Certification Commission (M&SPCC), which established the Certified M&S Professional (CMSP) program.