



JOHN CLUNE

AIR FORCE ACADEMY ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

John Clune graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1954 and was an All-American basketball player. A native of Jersey City, New Jersey, Clune came to the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1975 and served as the Athletic Director until 1991.

One of the most respected athletic administrators in America, he spearheaded Air Force's successful move into the Western Athletic Conference in 1980, becoming the first service academy to join a conference. He was instrumental in working with Colorado Springs officials to bring the U.S. Olympic Training Center, Olympic House and two U.S. Olympic Festivals to Colorado Springs.

Among his military decorations are the Legion of Merit, two Meritorious Service Medals and the Air Force Commendation Medal. In 1993, the Cadet Field House basketball arena was dedicated in his honor and named Clune Arena. He was honored with the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame in 2003 as the recipient of the John L. Toner Award, given annually to an athletic director who has demonstrated superior administrative abilities and shown outstanding dedication to college athletics and particularly college football. He was a member of the first class of the Air Force Athletics Hall of Fame in 2007. Colonel Clune died of cancer in 1992 after serving 16 years as the revered Director of Athletics at the U.S. Air Force Academy.