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MR. DECOTA WAS AN ACTIVE ADVOCATE FOR AIRPORT ISSUES ON CAPITOL HILL AND IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY. THROUGH BOARD LEADERSHIP POSITIONS ON MAJOR AVIATION TRADE ASSOCIATIONS, MR. DECOTA HAS DEVELOPED A REPUTATION FOR NATIONAL LEADERSHIP.”

The Honorable James L. Oberstar

WILLIAM R. DECOTA
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

“

BILL WAS ONE OF OUR NATION'S GREAT AVIATION LEADERS.”

Rep. John Mica (D-7, Florida)
Chair of the House Aviation Subcommittee

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YOU HAVE BEEN A FRIEND, YOU HAVE BEEN A COLLEAGUE, YOU HAVE BEEN A MENTOR, AN OCCASIONAL ADVERSARY, BUT YOU KNEW HOW TO DISAGREE WITHOUT BEING DISAGREEABLE. YOUR ASSET VALUE TO THE PORT AUTHORITY IS TRULY INCALCULABLE.”

Jim May, President & CEO, Air Transport Association

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BILL ALWAYS SEEMED TO HAVE TIME FOR EVERYONE WHO ASKED FOR HIS HELP OR ADVICE.”

Bill Sherry, Director of Aviation
Mineta San Jose International Airport

The Wings Club was founded in New York City in 1942 to maintain a non-profit aviation meeting place in New York City to promote the advancement and development of aeronautics. The group works to provide a center for discussion of matters pertaining to aviation and offer members services and facilities to aid them in their aeronautical activities. The Wings Club Scholarship Fund was established to encourage education in aviation and aerospace. Every year, four scholarships are awarded to deserving students studying in colleges and universities participating in the program. Each school selects a deserving award recipient based on the Wings Club Scholarship Fund criteria and those students, along with the corporations and individuals, who support the Scholarship Fund, are honored and recognized at the Wings Club's annual Dinner-Dance held each October.

**THE WILLIAM R. DECOTA
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The Wings Club Scholarship Fund
PO Box 4464
New York, NY 10163

212-867-1770

www.wingsclub.org/scholarshipfund

WILLIAM R. DECOTA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A LIVING LEGACY TO AN AVIATION LEADER



**WILLIAM R. DECOTA
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**



WILLIAM R. DECOTA

**A MAN
WHO
SOARED**

In business and in life, there are few individuals who could claim overwhelming respect and admiration. William R. DeCota was one such person. Passionate, intelligent, and good-humored, Mr. DeCota soared in the complex and challenging aviation industry.

Mr. DeCota worked diligently on behalf of his nation to improve and enhance his airports and those throughout the United States. He led one of the world's largest aviation systems at The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. And was also a national voice on major airport issues and aviation industry initiatives, until his untimely and sudden death in 2009.

As director of aviation for the Port Authority, he oversaw the management of Kennedy International, Newark Liberty International, LaGuardia, Stewart International, and Teterboro airports. He was a recognized expert on managing airport congestion through prudent airport expansion, cutting-edge technologies, and demand management. Mr. DeCota also was a fixture at congressional hearings, testifying on the most important aviation issues of the day. He helped lead efforts nationally to establish the Passenger Facility Charge, which provided airports across the nation a steady stream of revenue to reinvest in aviation facilities. He was a champion of increased autonomy for airport operators. Additionally, he

**INSPIRING
OTHERS TO FLY**

spearheaded initiatives like NextGen to replace aging radar technology with state-of-the-art GPS technology, as part of his overall goal to help reduce flight delays at the region's airports and across the nation.

Throughout his career, Mr. DeCota focused on preserving the rich heritage of New York's regional airports and their role in aviation history, while continually evolving facilities and services to meet current and future air travel needs. It is in this spirit of constant growth and development that the William R. DeCota Scholarship Fund emerged.

A few of Mr. Decota's colleagues in the aviation industry, including the Wings Club, Continental Airlines, JetBlue Airways, Hudson News, and Famous Famiglia, as well as his beloved colleagues at the Port Authority, have created a living legacy to this aviation leader by establishing the William R. DeCota Scholarship to be awarded to a student at Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology. The college offers degree programs for those interested in becoming professional pilots, and other careers in the aviation industry, as well as related government agencies. Vaughn College already selects a student for a Fund scholarship and will thus be giving two scholarships each year based on the Wings Club Scholarship Fund criteria.

**SUPPORTING
THE
SCHOLARSHIP
FUND**

There is no better way to honor the life and legacy of Bill DeCota than with a donation to the scholarship fund established in his name. Your gift will help support the education of a student in an industry that Bill loved and valued.

You may send your donation made payable to **The William R. DeCota Scholarship Fund** to The Wings Club Scholarship Fund PO Box 4464 New York, NY 10163.

Gifts to the Fund are tax-deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law.

A special thank you to The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and The Wings Club for establishing the scholarship fund.

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

**For more information,
call 212-867-1770.**

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TO AN AVIATION LEADER**