

Keith Williams

Class of 1981

Distinguished Alumni Honoree



Keith was born in Cleveland, Ohio but attended Princeton school district starting in kindergarten. While at Princeton High School, Keith immersed himself in extracurricular activities, with playing 4 years of football, track and field and baseball. During high school years he was involved in a youth city council mentorship program that meets regularly with city officials.

After graduating from Princeton, Keith attended Howard University in Washington, DC where he earned a Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering degree in 1986 and was an active member of the National Society of Black Engineers and an Air Force ROTC cadet. While in college Keith worked as a computer operator at the Department of Justice Information Technology department. He also interned at Proctor and Gamble where he learned the manufacturing process of the Pamper diapers and help provide productivity cost saving ideas.

Keith's professional career started at General Electric Company in 1986 where he was hired as a military aviation design engineer. Currently he is commercial aviation engine model manager that works closely with aircraft manufacturers to ensure seamless technical integration. He has five engine component US patents and received several distinguish engineering awards over his 32 years career at GE. In 1994 he was awarded the Department Special Engineering Recognition Award for being on a tiger team that developed and tested the Axisymmetric Vectoring Exhaust Nozzle for the USAF F-16 fighter jets providing a significant advantage for air to air combat.

Outside of work Keith mentored students at Aiken High School, Lincoln Heights Elementary and UC engineering students. Also, during his child's primary education, he was a PTA member and neighborhood HOA trustee member. Keith also enjoyed coaching youth soccer, inline hockey and football. His U16 Ohio inline hockey team was the last team standing in 2009 State War's tournament.

Keith has been married for 31 years to another Princeton Alum Renee (Daniels) Williams and they have a 28-year-old daughter Paige Williams and posthumous son Tyler Williams.