



## *Distinguished Lecturer Series*

### **Richard Martin**

*United Launch Alliance*

**December 11<sup>th</sup>, Scripps Cottage**

**Check in and dinner: 6:30 p.m.**

**Lecture: 7:00 p.m.**

**Cost: \$8 for dinner**

Please RSVP to [sdsu.aiaa@gmail.com](mailto:sdsu.aiaa@gmail.com) by  
December 4<sup>th</sup>



My 58 Years with the Atlas Rocket

The Atlas rocket, originally developed as America's first ICBM, was the basis for most early American space exploration and was that country's most successful medium-lift commercial launch vehicle. It launched America's first astronaut into orbit; the first generations of spy satellites; the first lunar orbiters and landers; the first probes to Venus, Mars, Mercury, Jupiter, and Saturn; and was America's most successful commercial launcher of communications satellites.



Richard Martin obtained an M.S. in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Illinois. He developed some of the first criteria and methods for determining loads and dynamic environments for ballistic missiles as part of the Atlas ICBM development. He also participated in the design of the Centaur upper stage, the first liquid hydrogen fueled rocket. He initiated a method of using winds measured just before flight to modify the pitch program and reduce bending loads during atmospheric flight.

Mr. Martin spent over thirty years managing analytic functions such as structural dynamics, stability and control, stress, mass properties, and guidance. He finished his 43 year career at General Dynamics as the chief technical staff member solving multidisciplinary problems. Since retiring from General Dynamics in 1994, he has been a consultant on Atlas for Lockheed Martin and is currently a part-time

employee of the United Launch Alliance. Some of his most notable awards include Engineer of the Year, AIAA Fellow and Distinguished Lecturer, and the AIAA San Diego Section Lifetime Achievement Award.

