



## **General Larry Spencer**

**US Air Force (Retired)**

**President, Armed Forces Benefit Association/5Star Life Insurance Company**

General Larry Spencer was appointed a director of Whirlpool Corporation in August 2016. He is a member of the finance committee and the corporate governance & nominating committee of the board of directors.

General Spencer is the President of the Armed Forces Benefit Association and 5Star Life Insurance Company, a position he has held since March 2020. He served until March 2019 as President of the United States Air Force Association, a position he held since his retirement as a four-star general in 2015 after serving 44 years with the United States Air Force.

Spencer enlisted in 1971, and rose to Vice Chief of Staff, the second highest-ranking military member in the Air Force. He also was the first Air Force officer to serve as the Assistant Chief of Staff in the White House Military Office. He served as the Chief Financial Officer and then Director of Mission Support as a major command, and he held positions within the Air Staff and Secretariat. General Spencer participated in contingency Operations Desert Shield/Storm, Desert Thunder, Desert Fox, Allied Force and Iraqi Freedom.

He received the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Air Force Distinguished Medal And Defense Superior Service Medal Legion of Merit. He has two named awards: The Air Force General Larry Spencer Innovation Award and the Air Force General Larry Spencer Special Acts and Services Award. Spencer received his Bachelor of Science degree in industrial engineering technology from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale; a Master of Science degree in business management from Webster College; and a Master of Science degree in industrial resource strategy from the National Defense University. He is a Distinguished Senior Fellow of Fels Institute of Government, University of Pennsylvania.

Spencer is also a director of the Triumph Group, Inc., and Haynes International, Inc. He is on the Advisory Board of the Air Force Association's CyberPatriot, the nation's largest youth cyber education program and AFA's flagship science, technology, engineering and mathematics program dedicated to strengthening cyber skills among American youth. The program features the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition for high school and middle school students, AFA CyberCamps, an Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative and Literature Series, as well as a CyberGenerations program designed to teach senior citizens to protect themselves from cyber exploitation.

General Spencer is the author of the book, *The Green Eyeshades of War*, a historical review of financial management during war, published in 2016.

He also authored the book, *Dark Horse - General Larry O. Spencer and His Journey from the Horseshoe to the Pentagon*, published in November 2021, US Naval Institute.

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Editorial Review - “Larry Spencer’s Dark Horse chronicles the improbable journey of a Black kid from the ‘hood’ who grew up to be one of the most senior four-star generals in the U.S. Air Force. Though he began life with low self-esteem on a playing field tilted against African Americans, Spencer shares experiences and lessons learned that helped him to overcome setbacks and achieve greatness.

“Inspirational, practical, and uplifting—everyone can learn valuable life lessons from this man of many firsts.” ~ Deborah Lee James, 23rd Secretary of the Air Force

