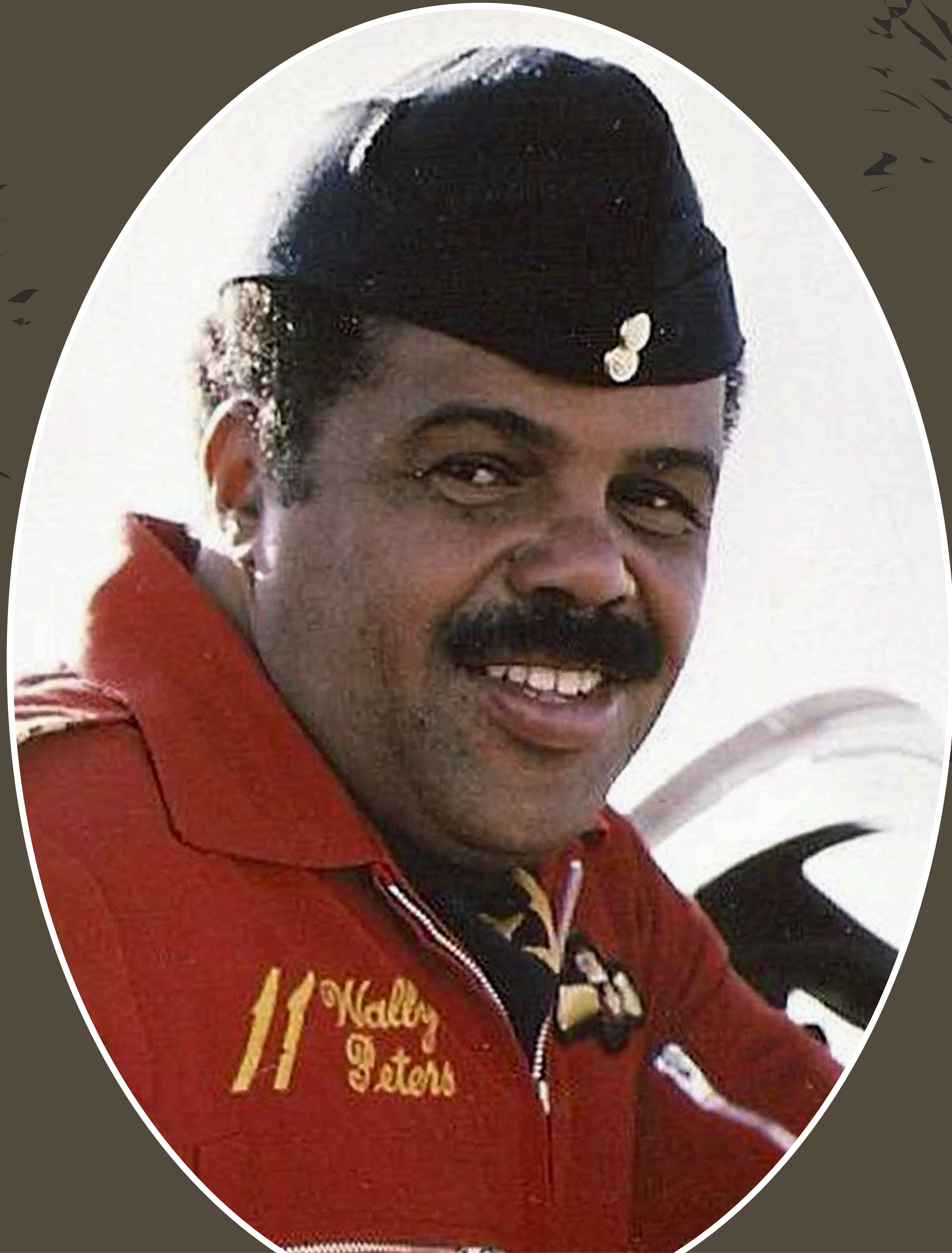


# MAJOR WALTER PETERS

1937-2013, Litchfield, Nova Scotia



## ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE PILOT

Born in Nova Scotia, Walter Peters' family relocated to Saint John, New Brunswick, where he attended Saint John High School. He later attended Mount Allison University on an athletic scholarship for football, earning a degree in engineering. At age 24, Peters enrolled in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF), and completed the training course with top honours, becoming the first Canadian-born Black jet fighter pilot in RCAF history. In addition to his distinguished RCAF career, Peters was the first Human Rights Officer in the Canadian Armed Forces, and an advisor to the United Nations Security Council at UN headquarters in New York. Peters was also the first president of the New Brunswick Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NBAACP) and was outspoken about racism and discrimination in aviation and the armed forces. Following his retirement from the RCAF in 1984, Peters worked for the Canadian Aviation Safety Board and Transport Canada. Walter Peters Drive at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport is named in his memory. In an interview with Mount Allison University's alumni magazine, Peters stated, "You don't have to accept me, but you do have to respect me."