

GOLDEN TORCH AWARD

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Tran Dinh Truong, Proprietor, Hotel Carter (NYC, NY) & Hotel Lafayette (Buffalo, NY)
New York City, New York



Mr. Truong Dinh Tran immigrated to the United States in 1975 and began his hotel business, first with the Hotel Opera on the Upper West Side in Manhattan, and then his current Hotel Carter in Midtown Manhattan and Hotel Lafayette in Buffalo.

Mr. Tran, a New York hotel owner and former CEO of the Vishipco Line, contributed \$2 million of his personal funds to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. His generous donation is a testament to his deep commitment to his new country.

When Mr. Tran heard of the terrorist attacks on September 11th, his reaction was one of sadness and outrage. Like all Americans, Mr. Tran felt compelled to help the victims and families of the attack in any way he could. He also felt a strong sense of unity and patriotism to the country that had been his home for the past 29 years.

Mr. Tran is no stranger to rebuilding. As Chief Executive Officer, Chairman, and Principal owner of the Vishipco Line, the largest shipping company in South Viet Nam prior to 1975, Mr. Tran used his company's resources, which included 24 commercial ships and hundreds of trucks, to aid in the evacuation of thousands of American civilians and military personnel from South Viet Nam.



Eugene Trinh, Director, Physical Sciences Research Division, NASA Headquarters
Space Shuttle Columbia for STS-50, June 25, 1992
Washington, District of Columbia



Dr. Eugene H. Trinh is the Director of the Physical Sciences Research Division in the Biological and Physical Research Enterprise at NASA Headquarters. He came to NASA HQ in 1999 as a Senior Research Scientist from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, where for twenty years he conducted experimental and theoretical research in Fluid Dynamics, Fundamental Materials Science, and Levitation Technology. He conducted hands-on experimental investigations in laboratories, aboard the NASA KC-135 airplane, and on the Space Shuttle Columbia. Dr. Trinh was a Payload Specialist crew member on the STS-50/United States Microgravity Lab-1 Space Shuttle flight in 1992.

As the Director of the Physical Sciences Research Division at NASA, Dr. Trinh leads the effort to develop an innovative peer-reviewed scientific program focusing on the effects of gravity on physical, chemical, and biological systems. The results of this program will enable the human exploration and development of space, providing the scientific basis for technologies permitting humankind to explore the vast expanses of our solar system and beyond. Dr. Trinh graduated with a BS in Engineering from Columbia University and earned a PhD in Engineering from Yale University.

Dr. Trinh was born in Saigon, Viet Nam, raised from the age of two in Paris, France and has lived in the United States since 1968. He graduated from Lycee Michelet in Paris, France with a Baccalaureate degree in 1968. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering-Applied Physics from Columbia University in 1972; Masters of Science and of Philosophy and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Applied Physics from Yale University in 1974, 1975, and 1977 respectively.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY