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Aviation Innovator to Receive Honorary Degree at University of Dayton Commencement

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April 17, 2003
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NEWS RELEASE

(NOTE TO EDITORS: THIS VERSION CONTAINS THE CORRECT DATE. PLEASE DREGARD THE EARLIER VERSION. APOLOGIES FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.)

**AVIATION INNOVATOR TO RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREE
AT UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON COMMENCEMENT**

DAYTON, Ohio —As the Dayton community celebrates the centennial of powered flight, the University of Dayton will present an honorary doctorate of engineering degree to Brian H. Rowe, an innovator who led General Electric Aircraft Engines to its position as global leader in the field of jet engines.

He will receive the degree during UD commencement exercises at 10 a.m. Sunday, May 4, at UD Arena.

Rowe served as president and CEO of GE Aircraft Engines and senior vice president of the General Electric Co. from 1979 to 1993, and then served as chairman of GE Aircraft Engines until 1995. He recently stepped down as chairman of the board of Atlas Air Inc.

His career has spanned the age of transatlantic flight, and his innovations have shaped the nature of today's air travel.

Born in London, Rowe worked as a teen apprentice on piston, jet and rocket engines and the first commercial jetliner engines at deHavilland Engine Co. during a time when Britain dominated post-World War II transatlantic service. He received his bachelor's degree with honors in mechanical engineering at Kings College, Durham University, and joined General Electric two years later.

During his career, he worked on the design, development and engineering of GE's CF6, one of the first successful high bypass ratio turbofan engines, as well as vertical takeoff and landing equipment.

He pioneered the GE90 jet engine, the largest and most powerful engine in the sky. It is designed specifically for the Boeing 777s used by all major airlines, and it's the engine that allows an airplane to depart from the East Coast, fly over the North Pole and land in China.

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Early on, he recognized the future importance of regional air service and steered GE toward serving that market, the fastest growing part of the aircraft business today.

His honors and activities indicate the scope of his impact. Deeply involved with the Cincinnati community, he holds an honorary degree from the University of Cincinnati. He is a fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and has been awarded the French Legion of Honor. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a past president of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

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To arrange a media interview, contact **Sharon Brazo** at (513) 243-8866.