We pay tribute to author, scholar, and strategist Dr. Stephen Chiabotti, Colonel, USAF, retired. Steve was a founding member of the Strategic Studies Quarterly (SSQ) Contributing Editors group and the longest-serving member of the group to date—11 years. Every month over those years, he provided insightful evaluations of SSQ submissions, adding greatly to the quality of SSQ content. Steve also published with SSQ on several occasions, including his most recent article in our Conventional Deterrence special edition, “Clausewitz as Counterpuncher” (https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/).

Colonel Chiabotti was a Distinguished Graduate of the United States Air Force Academy (1972), earning a degree in physics. He later earned a doctorate in history from Duke University. Colonel Chiabotti served 30 years active duty in the Air Force and became commandant of the USAF School of Advanced Air and Space Studies (SAASS)—an institution dedicated to educating strategists. Afterward, he taught strategy at SAASS as a civilian faculty member for 16 years.

Air University and Strategic Studies Quarterly have lost an intellectual giant and dedicated servant whose influence will be sorely missed. Steve’s legacy will continue in the lives of his students, colleagues, and friends for generations.

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