Erin Staine-Pyne

Board of Trustees

Erin Staine-Pyne is the General Manager of Mobility at Merlin Labs, where she leads business development, program delivery, and customer engagement for the company's autonomous flight software, the Merlin Pilot.

A retired United States Air Force Colonel with over 27 years of service, Erin is a combat-experienced C-17A and C-130E/H pilot who has flown missions across multiple theaters of operation. She served as a Wing Commander, a Pentagon advisor, and a Weapons School instructor — bringing operational, institutional, and strategic leadership experience. She was also a Council on Foreign Relations Senior Fellow, has Masters Degrees from University of Colorado and National War College, and earned her undergraduate degree from the United States Air Force Academy.

In her current role, Erin bridges the gap between cutting-edge autonomous aviation technology and the defense and regulatory communities that will define its future. She brings to Merlin Labs the same credibility, rigor, and mission focus she developed over a distinguished military career.

Erin is married to Frank Staine-Pyne. They have one amazing daughter, Elliott and two adorable doodles.