

A Mission Moment - *Passenger Larry G.*

Since its first flight in 1984, AFW volunteers and staff have touched many lives on many levels, and what they give in terms of money, time and expertise has often been rewarded in very profound ways. That's what makes AFW such a unique service for both the giver and receiver. The following article written by volunteer **So. CA Command Pilot Tom Close** in 2014 after flying **passenger Larry G.** on Larry's first AFW flight is an example of the hidden benefits of being an AFW volunteer. Tom took the photo (right) of Larry and flew him from Santa Monica, CA to his home in San Diego following treatment for lung cancer. In total, Larry flew with 40 different pilots on 117 mission legs, and five of our Earth Angels drove Larry back and forth from the airport to UCLA. Earth Angel Margot Bernal drove him over 60 times. Larry's last flight with us was on June 29, 2017 before his passing on April 4, 2018.

"I'm reminded of the old adage about feeling down and complaining about not having shoes until we meet the fellow without feet. Pretty extreme jump on my part, maybe, but here's the point. Lawrence is facing a terrible illness, and he nonetheless appreciates the good in his life where he finds it. A ride to and from medical treatment?

Nice, in and of itself, but more to the point, it is the nexus of need and caring by others. He's not alone in his fight. That's a smile producer, for sure. Lawrence is a man engaged with life, and naturally upbeat and happy. The events around Lawrence and this flight, are, indeed, emblematic of AFW. It's the venue where your wonderful

Continued on page 3...



"Lawrence came into the AFW office to wait for his flight home. He was understandably tired and feeling sick from his treatment, so to see this picture of him, taken just a short while after leaving here looking literally like a new man, is just amazing. This image, to me, is the perfect example of the magic of AFW."

-Erin Gardner,
2014 AFW Mission Coordinator

2018 ENDEAVOR AWARDS A HUGE SUCCESS!



Bill Ayer, former CEO of Alaska Airlines accepting his Inspiration Award supported by Aidan, a passenger who flew with donated Alaska Airlines miles, his mom Tasha, and AFW Board member and Chief Pilot for Alaska Airlines Ali Faddis.

* All Endeavor Award photos taken by Jerry and Lois Photography

Four hundred guests, volunteer pilots, corporate partners, celebrities and aviation luminaries gathered beneath the Space Shuttle Endeavour in the Samuel L. Oschin Pavilion at the California Science Center in Los Angeles. Through your generosity, we raised more than \$675,000! This enables AFW to arrange more than 3,000 missions to provide free flights to children, veterans, rescue animals, and individuals seeking medical treatment or other life-saving resources.

"We were very proud to recognize **Bill Ayer** and our incredible partnership with Alaska Airlines with an Inspiration Award," said Mark Wolper, President & Executive Producer of The Wolper Organization at Warner Bros. As CEO of **Alaska Airlines**, Bill established our partnership 15 years

ago, donating commercial tickets valued at \$1,000,000 annually, primarily for Alaska residents, but also for patients living in areas where weather can ground smaller aircraft. In addition, In times of natural disasters Alaska Airlines contributes frequent flier miles donated by its customers, and allocates seats to transport emergency response personnel, and to reunite and relocate families.

We were also thrilled to recognize **Dale Klapmeier** and Cirrus Aircraft with an Inspiration Award for inspiring pilots through the "**Cirrus Life**" to give back to their communities using donated flights for humanitarian needs. Cirrus Aircraft and its partners have donated more than \$100,000, and 450-plus Cirrus pilots volunteer their time and aircraft to

Continued on page 3...



ASK JOSH

by Josh Olson
Executive Director

Q What made you want to work at Angel Flight West?
– Lucy Wood

Angel Flight first grabbed my attention when I was a recent college graduate working at an advertising agency in Dallas as the account guy for Angel Flight South Central. As an aviation lover with both an Air Force pilot father and grandfather, I was immediately impressed and inspired by their mission. My fondness for their mission increased as I continued to work with them. My wife Erin also began working in the AFSC offices. During my time there, I heard many stories of how both patients' and pilots' lives were transformed through these donated flights.

When we moved to Los Angeles so I could pursue my "illustrious" acting career in beer and golf commercials, Erin was hired at AFW and I started volunteering there during the day. I immediately fell in love with the culture of AFW and found that I was pretty good at helping other people. I was eventually asked by Executive Director Jim Weaver and Cheri if I could work for AFW part-time.

Erin eventually became pregnant with our first child. It was a high-risk pregnancy and our daughter was born early at two pounds. She spent the first month of her life in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Erin was on maternity leave and we spent our spare time in the NICU with our daughter. I spent the rest of my time at AFW coordinating missions. It was then that I received a call from another dad named Josh (Faith) living in Kalispell. His daughter Valicity was in Seattle Children's Hospital attended by his wife Candy, and he was making 16-hour roundtrips in his truck over the Cascades on weekends so he could spend time with his family, keep his job, and healthcare benefits. He was running himself ragged. By the time he was done telling me



Far right, Josh receiving \$87,130 for AFW from Candy and Josh Faith and their son with funds they raised at Valicity's Princess Ball, an event they hold annually in remembrance of their daughter whom they lost to leukemia. Read their story below.

his story and asking if we could help, we were both in tears. It was then I realized that had my circumstances been slightly different, I would have needed AFW just as much to help my own family. I went back to the hospital that night and told Erin, "I think I'm supposed to make a career of helping people instead of just entertaining them."

Little did I know then, that moment would link me not only to AFW for 10 years, but also to Josh and Candy Faith. Josh and Candy did everything they could to keep Valicity's spirits up as she battled leukemia. They agreed to make her wish to have a princess party at home come true when her treatment was done. Sadly, Valicity lost her battle against leukemia before they could give her that party. However, to continue to remember and honor their daughter's wish, every year they host "Valicity's Once Upon a Time Princess Ball" and share the proceeds from the event with the charities that helped them in their time of need: Angel Flight West, Ronald McDonald House Seattle, and the Montana Hope Project. What started as a small gathering of family and friends to celebrate Valicity, has turned into a city and regional event of thousands that inspires families to cherish time together and give back to those less fortunate. I have also had the pleasure of taking my daughter to the Princess Ball to celebrate Valicity.

I feel so fortunate to know Josh and Candy, and humbled by their generosity. It is helping and serving families like the Faiths that continuously reminds me of how and why I came to AFW, and that makes our work here so important and meaningful.

Air to Air

→ We send our deepest condolences to the families of WA Pilot Don Stanwyck, CO Pilot Larry Jones, and UT Pilot Stephen Terry.

→ We also send our sympathy to the family of Las Vegas passenger Gia Lozano.

→ Our partner [glassybaby](#) continues their support by donating half of the giving proceeds from their SeaTac store to AFW. We still have a limited number of "wings" handmade votives at Santa Monica AFW HQ. To purchase directly from AFW, please contact maryh@angelflightwest.org

→ [Phillips 66](#) has agreed to provide AFW pilots a \$1-per-gallon avgas rebate. Read more information at: <http://tinyurl.com/y7aswwf3>

→ The aviation-focused company [Scheyden](#) offers a 50% discount to AFW members on their eyewear products. Use the promo code ANGEL on checkout at: <http://scheyden.com/>

→ [ZuluLog](#), a professional, cloud-based online pilot logbook system, is offering 10% discount to all AFW members and a donation back to AFW with every purchase! Use code ZULUAFW when ordering at: <https://www.zululog.com/>

In The Hangar

Emma Doud



Emma Doud just arrived at AFW on May 7th as our summer intern. She's studying in the Health and Human Sciences program at LMU and has two more years before she graduates. Wanting to keep busy on her summer break, Emma found AFW on an app called Handshake that puts college students together with businesses for temporary and permanent jobs.

She found the description of AFW's mission something she wanted to experience. Emma explained that her grandfather has Alzheimer's, so she can relate to those

who have family dealing with a chronic health challenge. She feels that AFW's mission of "putting people together who need this service is amazing." Emma is just learning her office duties, which will eventually be assisting the Mission Coordinators arranging missions for passengers, medical personnel and social workers by inputting their data for our AFW pilots.

When Emma was younger, she remembers watching her grandfather make model airplanes, and although her mother would help fly them, she never got that chance. Now she says that "it would be awesome to fly as a Mission Assistant some day." So, now maybe she'll get a chance to actually fly *in* one. Welcome aboard, Emma!

2018 ENDEAVOR AWARDS...continued from first page



L to R: Inspiration Awardee Dale Klapmeier, co-founder of Cirrus Aircraft with AFW passenger Oliver and his mother Shannan who has flown many times with our So. CA Wing pilot Jim Dell; Endeavor Awardee Dr. Kevin D'Angelo volunteer pilot with Wings Flights of Hope; and Endeavor Awardee Wanda Whitsitt volunteer pilot and founder of LifeLine Pilots (LLP) embracing Melissa Neumann, LLP passenger and Board Member.

charitable aviation. The three honorees were:

AFW Pilot Bob Schaper, for surpassing 1,000 charitable flights for AFW, only the second time a pilot has achieved this in AFW history!

Wanda Whitsitt, the Founder & Volunteer Pilot for LifeLine Pilots. Founded in 1981, Lifeline Pilots (LLP) is the oldest regional volunteer pilot organization, and the oldest VPO flying patients in the U.S.

Dr. Kevin D'Angelo, of Orchard Park New York, **volunteer for Wings Flights of Hope**. Kevin began flying compassion flights in 2000 and has completed nearly 150 missions.

We thank our generous event sponsors: AOPA, Pegasus Elite Aviation, Alaska Airlines, Cirrus Aircraft, Jeppesen, Steve Danz, UCLA, Anthem Blue Cross, NBAA, The Kauffman Family Foundation, Windermere Real Estate, HomeSmart, and Clay Lacy Aviation among many others!

And an equally big thank you to our amazing event co-chairs, Mark Wolper and Dr. Randy Sherman, our Host Committee, and hosts Alison Sweeney and Matt Rogers.

Finally, thank you to the evening's generous auction bidders like Maverick, Ice Man, Viper, Black Widow, Governor Gorgeous, and of course our inspiring passengers who courageously shared their stories with us. You can still support our passengers, AFW and the Endeavor Awards with a gift at <http://www.angelflightwest.org/donate/>, by sharing our photos and story with friends, or most importantly, volunteer! Hope to see you at Endeavor Awards 2019!

MISSION MOMENT Larry G....Continued from first page

organization puts in touch those in need, and those of us with the luxury of putting back, using the opportunities and capabilities in our lives where they can have the biggest impact. If the camera had been turned around, you'd have

seen as big a smile on my face. It's that human element, made possible by an organization that cares, and people who care."



We're Never Far Away

Our new mobile app!

by Stephan Fopeano, AFW Webmaster

We're always looking for ways to make it easier to fly or drive for Angel Flight West. Last year, we received a generous grant from the Del E. Webb Foundation to build a mobile app for our pilots and Earth Angels. The mobile app will make it much easier to find volunteer opportunities, sign up for a flight or an Earth Angel trip, and find the information you need on the day of the mission. You will be able to get all of your mission information in the app, as well as sign the electronic waiver, and file your mission report. The functionality is the same as what you're used to on the VPOIDS (formerly referred to as AFIDS) website, but optimized to work on phones and tablets, and more personalized.

We are currently beta testing the app. Look for an email from the coordination team in the next few weeks about the launch of the app. We will have both Android™ and Apple versions

available in the Google Play™ store and the Apple App Store®, and the apps will work on both phones and tablets. You will log in using the same VPOIDS username and password you use to log in on the website.

Please give the app a try! We will be improving the app over the next few months, and adding new features. One of the first to be added will be push notifications. When we find a mission that's perfect for you, we'll push it to your phone. With push notifications, you won't have to go through our full list of available missions to find the one that's right for you—we'll deliver the volunteer opportunity right to your phone.

The app will make your Angel Flight West volunteer experience easier, even if you are app-phobic. Your feedback is appreciated, and will be vital in creating the best experience possible. Thanks!



Friends and family are honored and remembered through donations made to AFW in their names.

January 2, 2018 to April 27, 2018

In Memory Of

Stephen Santo Filice
Jeanette Fowler
Dan Gettman
Lawrence "Larry"
Greenberg
Jeanne Ilgen
Alexis McKay

Eric Mudama
Clayton Hollis Smith
Don Stanwyck
Peter and Kathleen
Tomarken

In Honor Of

Members of Dusty
Wings/Orange County
Stan Dammel
Tom Fowler
Judge George Eskin
Jeff Moorhouse & Mike

John King
Dr. Randy Sherman



Rotor Aircraft Now Approved for Angel Flights

The AFW Board of Directors and Safety Committee has approved volunteer pilots utilizing certified rotor aircraft and helicopters to transport patients to/from treatment. In particular, we hope these can be useful for shorter hops and/or repositioning legs connecting patients to facilities closest to their care. If you have any questions or concerns about operating your helicopter in support of AFW missions, please contact Cheri at cheric@angelflightwest.org.

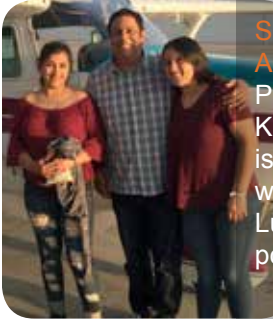


So. CA Wing Command Pilot Jim Dell flies passenger Oliver, who is taking a well-deserved nap on his way back home to Visalia with mom Shannan after a long weekend where he was the representative of our passengers at the Endeavor Awards ceremony at the California Science Center in Los Angeles. His usual AFW missions take him for chemotherapy for multi-system Langerhans cell histiocytosis, a rare cancer. His family is without transportation, and has no funds for commercial travel.

IT'S A FIRST!

Thank you to some of our first mission pilots!

A big **THANK YOU** to the following pilots who have flown their first mission with the organization! If you or a pilot you know would like to join these volunteers and find out why they are smiling, please go to <http://www.angelflightwest.org/pilot-page/> for more information.



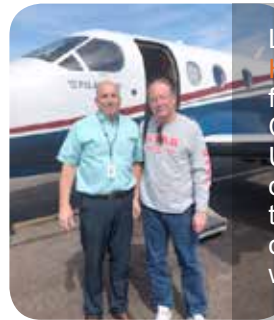
So. CA Command Pilot Gregory Alvarado flew his first mission from Palo Alto, CA to Bakersfield, CA for Kayla and mom, Maribel. Maribel is a working single mother of three with an unreliable vehicle to travel to Lucile Packard Hospital for Kayla's post liver transplant appointments.



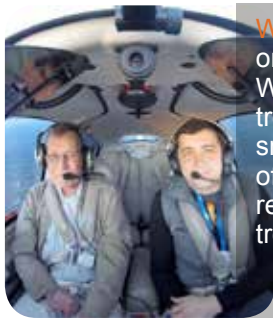
No. CA Command Pilot Dion Weisler flew his first mission for passenger Lizeth H. and her daughter, Lauren, from Hayward, CA to Santa Monica, CA and UCLA to be with Lizeth's mother. The family is on disability and has limited income. Lizeth is also the caregiver for her daughter awaiting a lung transplant



Ramondo and mom take a photo in front of their first mission from Santa Monica, CA to Bakersfield, CA. This was also **So. CA Command Pilot Robert Carter's** first mission! Ramondo is having treatment for a life-threatening illness. His family has extremely low income and limited resources.



UT Wing Command Pilot Richard Hendrickson flying his first mission for passenger Michael to Salt Lake City, UT for cancer treatment at University Utah Hospital. Michael is on limited income and can't afford travel costs for the specialized care of his melanoma that is not available where he lives locally.



WA Wing Command Pilot Kevin Miller on his first mission from Spokane, WA to Seattle with passenger Al for treatment at Seattle's VA. Al is on a small fixed income, no other means of transportation, and no financial resources to travel to specialized treatment for tongue cancer.



CO Wing Command Pilot Thomas Samuelson on his first mission flying passenger Keith after treatment at Cancer Centers of America for stage 4 cancer. Keith is unable to work, has no savings, and limited travel resources. The 1st leg flown by AF Oklahoma from Tulsa, OK to Scott City, Kansas, and 2nd leg to Denver, CO.



On his first mission, **WA Wing Command Pilot Nathan Rimmer** takes a selfie with Shawna and family after flying her from Seattle, WA to Chewelah, WA and Harborview Spine Center in Seattle for surgical consultation from spinal injuries. Her husband is unemployed, and she is unable to work due to pain.

To view all AFW Command Pilots who have flown missions in the last 90 days click on or go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/mwsv2s7>

Thank You!

**Angel Flight West Wishes to
Thank Our Top Contributors
January 2, 2018 to April 27, 2018**

**Alaska
AIRLINES**

Jeppesen Sanderson, Inc.

Stater Bros. Charities

Chive Charities

**Jeff and Linda Hendricks Family Foundation
Zemeckis Charitable Foundation**

Events Calendar

June 2 10:00AM
OR Wing Fly-In @
Troutdale Airport

June 15
AOPA Fly-In @
Missoula International
Airport

September 14
AOPA Fly-In @ Santa Fe
Municipal Airport

September 28
Angel Flight West Golf
Classic @ Monarch
Beach Golf Links -
Save the Date!

October 3
OR Rural Health
Conference - Bend, OR

October 6
CO Wing 2nd Annual 5k
Run

Oct 13 1:00PM
Brews & Props III Duel
Brewing @ Albuquerque,
NM

More info at
<http://www.angelflightwest.org/pilot-page/calendar-of-events>

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Calling All Pilots

Save the Dates for Summer Camps!

Prescott, AZ
Camp Courage
2-Jun • 9-Jun

Ontario, CA
Operation Bakersfield
6-Jun • 9-Jun

Fresno, CA
Champ Camp
9-Jun • 16-Jun

Big Bear Lake, CA
Camp Laurel
1-Jul • 7-Jul

Orcas Island, WA
Camp Orkila
10-Jul • 17-Jul

**Mariposa OR, Atwater/
Merced**
Camp Pacifica
22-Jul • 29-Jul

Julian, CA
Camp Kindle
23-Jul • 27-Jul

Livermore, CA
Firefighters Kids Camp
28-Jul • 3-Aug

Big Bear Lake, CA
Camp Laurel
29-Jul • 3-Aug

Santa Monica, CA
Camp Hollywood Heart
13-Aug • 19-Aug



Passenger four-year-old Amiyah is ready to take off for home to Stockton, CA from Palo Alto, CA after her liver transplant follow-up treatment at Lucille Packard Hospital. Amiyah's family does not own a vehicle, and she has a compromised immune system so public transportation is not an option. Her pilot, No. CA Command Pilot Christopher Bennett, has flown 230 missions with AFW! Thank you, Christopher!



Pictured arre (center) is So. CA Command Pilot Ken Hansen and (right) is So. CA Command Pilot Steve Danz, who coincidentally arrived at the same time as Ken to San Bernadino, CA. Steve was just in time to help Ken load much needed blood and lifesaving blood products for Lifestream Blood. Lifestream is an organization that services more than 80 So. CA hospitals. Ken flew his first mission with AFW in 2001! Thanks to you both, Ken and Steve!



AFW is proud to serve our nation's veterans, and OR Wing Command Pilot Tom Tormey helped get passenger and veteran Nick and his family from Joseph, OR to Portland, OR to OHSU for treatment of a shoulder injury sustained during combat from an IED explosion. Nick will receive shoulder replacement surgery. The family is on VA disability as he is unable to work fulltime. Part-time work, local churches and organizations have been supporting this family. Driving is physically difficult and painful. AFW thanks you for your service, Nick.

Thank you for your very generous support of giving me an air ride! Not only does this flight help alleviate a great stress for me on a very stressful day, it rekindles faith in the world. It means a lot to me to see & experience kind-hearted people like you doing something just to be kind. Thank you!
-Passenger Holly



Want to run on an airplane runway? Here's your chance!

AFW's 2nd Annual 5k Run for the Angels

Join AFW for our 2nd Annual Run for the Angels presented by our partner HDR in Broomfield, CO. The 5K run/walk/ramble will take place on Saturday October 6th at Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport.

See more details & register here:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/CO/Broomfield/Runway5KRunfortheAngels>



So. CA Wing Command Pilot Max Bucher flew passenger three-year-old Corban, and his mom Caroline pictured holding his brother James, back home on the first of a two-leg mission from San Diego to Bakersfield after a six-week stay at Rady Children's Hospital for muscle cancer treatment. So. CA Wing Command Pilot Fred Gagliardini flew the second leg to Modesto. Because of the location of Corban's tumor, sitting for long periods of time is very painful. His family is struggling with the high costs of Corban's medical treatments. This is Pilot Max's 5th mission with AFW. Thank you, Max!



L to R: "All thumbs," Mission Assistant Bill Patience, passenger six-year-old Luis, and So. CA Wing Command Pilot Jim Dell flying with Luis's mom Maria from San Diego to Santa Monica, CA for Luis's cancer treatment at UCLA's Mattel Children's Hospital. Luis is going for post liver transplant treatment. The family is extremely financially limited, while Luis has already had many past medical procedures.



CO Wing Command Pilot Stan VanderWerf with family of passenger eight-month-old Ridge on their way from Durango, CO to Colorado Springs. Earth Angel Yelena Murphy drove the family from there to Denver where Ridge is undergoing surgery to correct a congenital urological defect. Ridge's single mom has no regular income and her insurance doesn't cover travel costs. Pilot Stan has been flying with AFW for almost six years! Thank you, Stan!



AFW thanks Alaska Airlines for its generous donation of hundreds of tickets to patients in need of medical treatments. You can also **donate to Alaska Airlines Charity Miles Program** to help AFW assist those in need get compassion flights for a variety of compelling reasons: <http://tinyurl.com/993tk7s>



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Santa Monica, CA 90405

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SAVE THE DATE!
9/28/18

Angel Flight West
2018 Golf Classic
and Sunset Cocktail Reception

SEPTEMBER 28, 2018 | 12:30 PM SHOTGUN START
MONARCH BEACH GOLF LINKS, DANA POINT, CA

REGISTER AND GET YOUR TICKETS HERE:
[HTTP://WWW.ANGELFLIGHTWEST.ORG/GOLF/](http://www.angelflightwest.org/golf/)
FOR SPONSORSHIP INFO EMAIL:
MARYH@ANGELFLIGHTWEST.ORG

Angel Flight West delivers health and hope using donated flights to serve those with healthcare or other compelling human needs.