



The sad news that Golden Eagles member Captain Harry Watson took his last flight West on Thursday, Jan 10, 2019, was just received from his wife Donna. Her email with the details of his passing is posted below along with a piece written by Harry as he prepared for his last flight West.

The Golden Eagles sends its sincere condolences to Captain Watson`s family as they say goodbye to their loved one, and we hope they find peace and comfort at this difficult time. We wish for Harry smooth air, favorable winds and clear skies for his final flight. RIP and Godspeed on your final journey Captain; you will be missed.

Additional information will be provided as it is received.

Donna`s email:

Dear Dave,

Your friend and my dear husband, Harry E. Watson, Jr. graduated into his heavenly home this past Thursday morning, January 10, 2019. I believe you were aware that Harry had been diagnosed with a deadly cancer a little over twelve years ago. Even though they gave him no more than three months to live at the time he was diagnosed, we were so very grateful that he was able to find a product which he took daily that put his cancer into remission and extended his life for an additional precious twelve years! Regretfully, his cancer (Pseudomyxoma Peritoni) reactivated with aggressiveness and quickly took him down.

I have attached what he so beautifully wrote in preparation for this special event.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, Dave. You can call me at (951) 456-0371, or you can e-mail me at inthelamb@yahoo.com.

Mailing address:

5881 El Palomino Drive, #127 Riverside, CA 92509

Blessings to you and your family,

Donna L. Watson

Written by Captain Watson in preparation for his last flight West:

HARRY E. WATSON CAL. CAPTAIN, RETIRED

LAST FLIGHT WEST

I had a dream the other night in which I had the opportunity to not only plan, but experience my last flight west. It was as though I was doing a practice run on the final flight that every pilot takes...his very last.

The first part that I remember of my dream was: I was sitting in the captain's seat of a 707-320C waiting for take-off clearance on 24R at Los Angeles. I had lived through this scenario many times in my career, and it was a privilege to have the opportunity to take off with a passenger load of 165 and a crew of 8 bound for new, untold adventures. Once I was cleared for take-off by the tower, and throttles applied, the thrill of the surge of power was an experience that you never forget. A safe take-off with clearance from Departure Control to proceed on course left us with the low, throbbing roar of four powerful engines carrying us to heights never before attained. Once cleared by Departure Control, we were given a new en-route frequency...one I had never used before. Immediately upon dialing in this channel, a cacophony of voices filled the air-waves, all of them easily recognizable of friends and comrades who had taken their last flight west many years ago. To name a few, there was John Fannin, Sam Bickford, Barney Barnwell; even that of Freddie Gray who was killed on a flight in May of 1962. Most were urging me to try to catch up, all of them congratulating me on this new journey I was undertaking. A loud squawking interrupted my reverie with instructions from the tower to taxi into position and hold.

I'm very much looking forward to my "Last Flight West." It appears I have already assembled my crew, and we're on the run-up pad of 24R. Instructions from the tower were just given:

"Continental 1 cleared for take-off."

Harry's final take-off took place at 9:45 a.m. on Thursday, January 10, 2019.



Dave Newell
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