



The sad news that former Continental Captain Robert Dalton Nelson has flown West was received from Golden Eagles member Captain Kent Muhlberger. Here is the message received from Kent:

*Dave,*

*I flew with Dalton in the late eighties when he was SO and I was an FO. He was a great guy, always calm, never got his feathers ruffled. And as you can see very devout in his faith. He had brain cancer. Very sad.*

*Thanks,*

*Kent Muhlberger*

*Kingwood GE's*

The Golden Eagles sends condolences to Captain Nelson`s family and we wish them peace and comfort as they grieve their unfortunate loss. Rest in peace Captain, and Godspeed on your final flight West.

The obituary for Captain Nelson is posted below:

*Celebrating the Life of*  
**ROBERT DALTON NELSON**  
FEBRUARY 11, 1951 – NOVEMBER 9, 2024



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SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH  
NOVEMBER 19, 2024

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*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,  
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish,  
but have eternal life. John 3:16*

Robert Dalton Nelson, age 73, passed away peacefully at home Saturday, November 9, 2024. Dalton was born February 11, 1951, in Honolulu, Hawaii, to Robert Earl and Frances (Wilson) Nelson.

Dalton was preceded in death by his parents; Bob and Frances. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Dixie Lea Nelson, his loving daughters Bethany Finley and Anna Larson, his treasured grandchildren Jayce, Savanna, Owen and Emery Larson, and his adoring sisters Rebecca Edwards, Enola Nelson, and Velma Nelson.

Dalton accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior around the age of 8, while his Air Force family was stationed in Tripoli, Libya, and he was baptized in the Mediterranean Sea. Throughout his life, his love for the Lord grew. He lived his life with the conviction of, and the commitment to The Great Commission. He wholeheartedly knew his purpose on this Earth was to love his neighbor as himself and to spread the good news of Jesus' love far and wide. Dalton can best be described as having a servant's heart. He was truly the hands and feet of Jesus to all he met.

Dalton graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University in May 1973, and promptly married the love of his life the day after graduation. They celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last year. Dalton joined the Air Force and proudly served his country flying F4 Phantoms. He later became an instructor at Eglin Air Force Base teaching the art of laser guided missiles. When he and Dixie welcomed their daughters into the world, he left the military and moved to Houston becoming a pilot for Continental Airlines. Flying was his passion. He was licensed to fly planes as a teenager before he was licensed to drive cars. After he retired as a Captain from Continental, he continued to pursue his love for flying by building airplanes and was involved with a wonderful community of pilots at a local airport in Crosby, Texas.

Dalton lived an amazing life, filled with adventure, world travels and a dedication to serving others and furthering the kingdom of Heaven. He led young men in the Royal Ambassadors program at Humble Area First Baptist Church, taught in AWANA's, volunteered through "Kids' Hope" and "Loving Kids" tutoring elementary school students who'd fallen behind, built extraordinary Vacation Bible School set ups, and did handiwork for widows and the elderly. He served without expecting glory or recognition. He was passionate about supporting ministries around the world that brought the word of God to those who didn't know Him.

In lieu of flowers, Dalton has requested his friends and loved ones to continue his support of the following ministries: MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship), LifeLine Pregnancy Care Center Humble, Tunnels to Towers (supporting first responder families and veterans), Pacific Garden Mission of Chicago (ministering to the homeless), and Ratio Christi (collegiate ministry)



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