



The sad news that Golden Eagles member and former Continental Captain Kent Johnson has flown West was just received from Golden Eagles member Captain Wiley Moore. The Golden Eagles sends condolences to Captain Johnson`s family and wishes them peace and comfort at this difficult time. May Captain Johnson have favorable winds, smooth air and clear skies for his flight West. Rest in peace Captain, and Godspeed on your final journey. You will be missed.

Any additional information regarding services or other notices from the family will be provided when they are received.

The material posted below was provided by Kent`s family.

In Loving Memory of Kent Johnson

Longtime aviator and member of the WPA Kent Johnson “slipped the surly bonds of Earth” on September 28, 2023. He was born on May 18, 1941 in Fort Collins, Colorado. He was raised and went to school in Southern California.



After high school he went to Cheyenne, Wyoming to work construction and during that summer of 1959 he also learned to fly. Soloing a Cessna 140 on July 20th. At that time he didn't know it would lead to a career in aviation, he just knew he wanted to fly for the rest of his life! In college he studied Aeronautics and got a job with Aerojet Aviation Division which got him time in a company aircraft the Lockheed Loadstar, Twin Beach, Martin 404 and B-26.



He joined the Navy Reserve in 1962 receiving Navy Wings assigned to VF-174 at NAS Cecil Field, Florida flying the F-8 Crusader then transferred to NAS Oceana, Virginia flying an F-8 and US2C. After 7 years of active duty he left the Navy, but continued with the Navy Reserve until retirement in 1996 with the rank of Navy Captain. While in the Navy he flew an A-4 at NAS Los Alamitos, California, F-8 & F-4 at NAS Miramar, California, NARU training officer flying a C1A at NAS Point Mugu, California. College flight recruiting in a T-34 in Point Mugu, CA. VP flying the P-3 at NAS Moffett, CA. VP maintenance officer SRU VP-69 at Point Mugu, CA. CO MB NAS Cubi Point, Philippines. Staff-AIR operations officer coastal defense command, at NS Jacksonville, FL.



Captain Kent Johnson

May 18, 1941 - September 28, 2023

He was hired by Continental Airlines in April of 1968 and worked his way up to Senior Flight Instructor and Captain on the B-777. On occasion Continental had him pick up new airplanes and fly VIPs on delivery flights. His Ratings include ATP Airplane Multi-Engine Land 727, 737, 747, 757, 767, 777, DC-9, DC-10, L188, LR Jet, and Commercial Privileges in Airplane single engine land and rotor craft helicopter. During Continental strike from 1985-87, he worked for Boeing as a flight instructor before returning to Continental to finish his career.

While flying as a first officer with Continental Airlines he met his lovely wife Karen, a flight attendant at the time. Kent asked Karen out on a date, but Karen heard he was married so she would not go out with him. Luckily Kent's mother was on a flight and went up to Karen telling her she really had to go out with him, that he was a really nice guy, and no matter what rumors might have been, that he was not married! Their first date was at a waterfront park, eating Kentucky Fried Chicken. Kent impressed Karen jumping in the water and showing his survival skill! Kent and Karen were married in 1971 and started a family right away. They have 3 children, 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Kent loved to take his family along and traveled the world by air and later by sea.



In 1974, he bought a “basket case” of airplane parts, worked on it off and on, over the course of 30 years, then finally completed his Stearman after retirement in 2002. The Stearman was considered part of the Johnson family, he loved flying and taking trips with friends.



In 2011 he sold the Stearman and purchased 1948 North American Navion. He share his love of aviation with his family, neighbors, and friends taking them flying in the Navion. He eventually sold the Navion and his last airplane was a

sporty RV8 painted in Navy colors.



Kent's enthusiasm for aviation was contagious. When visiting with him about flying you were in the midst of aviation greatness, but he had a way of making you feel like you were the great one! He was a friend you could count on!



Editors note: Pilot profile of Kent Johnson from the June 2017 newsletter edited

by Rashell Rosenkranz and information provided by Karen Johnson.



Dave Newell
Golden Eagles VP/Email Coordinator
davebnewell@gmail.com

Copyright © 2023 GoldenEagles Retiree Association, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
[You can update your preferences](#)



This email was sent to <<Email Address>>
why did I get this? [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
GoldenEagles Retiree Association · 233 Forest Ridge Dr · Lakehills, TX 78063-6213 · USA

