LIFE AFTER INTEL: Carl Geisert, Intel Retiree and Dream Flights Pilot – Giving Back to Those who Gave

By Debbie Watson

Meet Carl Geisert, an Az/Ocotillo Intel retiree since 2015. During Carl's time at Intel, he worked in the military group as a product engineer and in CQN as a Q&R manager for FSM. The bulk of his time was spent working in factories for FSM as a process engineer, manager, and finally as a senior principal engineer. But all along, his #1 hobby has been aviation. He owns his own airplane and has been flying his entire life. His hobby has now become his means of giving back to those

who gave of themselves – our veterans! His passion for aviation led him to volunteer for <u>Dream Flights</u> headquartered in Carson City, Nevada.

Not coincidentally, the mission of Dream Flights is "giving back to those who gave." In support of that mission, they travel around the country to honor military veterans and seniors with the



adventure of a lifetime: a flight in a WWII era Boeing Stearman biplane. Check out their website at dreamflights.org to learn more about this amazing organization!

Largely made up of volunteers, Dream Flights has pilots (mostly current/retired military and airline pilots), ground crew volunteers, people working on social media, administrators helping with scheduling, mechanics that service the airplanes, etc. The organization works with senior care facilities, families, and individuals to identify recipients. Rides generally last 45 minutes from start to finish. The veterans get a Dream Flights hat and a photo taken with the pilot and airplane in a frame shipped back to their homes. In 2021, the Dream Flights organization gave biplane rides to over 800 World War II veterans and every one of them was at least 90 years old!

Carl has been with the organization for about three years and loves having the opportunity to honor those who have served our country. Initially he was a crew chief, helping with passenger loading and interfacing with the veterans and their families. Last year, he became one of their pilots and flew veterans in Oregon and Arizona. He appreciates



Carl shaking hands with a WWII veteran he gave a ride to in Oregon last year.

that a ride in one of the biplanes has an extraordinary impact on the veterans. They light up with excitement, smiling and telling stories of their experiences in the military. They cherish the pictures and the hats, and they talk about the ride for months.



A picture is worth a thousand words...

On a personal note, Carl also enjoys woodworking, cooking, and golf. He enjoys spending time with his wife, Mylan, who also worked for Intel in HR. They've been married for 43 years and have three kids and four grandkids. If you would like to connect with Carl to catch-up, or to talk about opportunities to volunteer or donate to Dream Flights, he can be reached at geisert1gm@gmail.com.