



For more information contact:
John Niehaus
Director of Program Development
National Association of Flight Instructors
(269) 355-6500
jniehaus@nafinet.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ELAYNE HUMPHREY EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

KALAMAZOO, MI — 9/22/2023 The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Elayne Humphrey has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor.

Humphrey's love of aviation started when she was inspired to become an astronaut. She grew up in the Washington D.C. area watching airplanes take off from Dulles International Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, and wished she was on those airplanes. As a teen, the luxury of flight lessons was not a possibility, so she postponed her dream. After graduating with a bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech and a master's degree in marketing research from the University of



Texas at Arlington, she got married, raised two kids, and had her own website design business. During the 14 years she was homeschooling her kids, she never gave up the hope of flying one day. Finally on May 2, 2018, after taking her first flight lesson, she knew she had found the life path she was longing for — combining her passion to teach and her desire to fly.

In the past five years, Humphrey has gone from student pilot to CFI, CFII, MEI, and earning a seaplane rating — a highlight of her flying time thus far. She won the Ladies in Flight Training scholarship and

trained in floatplanes in Talkeetna, Alaska. This led to a great relationship with Alaska Floats & Skis at AK8 where she created and leads a yearly CFI intensive course.

Humphrey's goal is to inspire others to know that they can do "it" — whatever "it" is for them. At every stage of flight training, she has sought to help people have confidence to pursue their dreams. Each new adventure has opened more possibilities for her to give back to the aviation community. To inspire others, during the month of May for the anniversary of her first lesson, she gives away free lessons.

Her free time is spent reading about and watching aviation-related or instructor-related videos and challenging herself to learn new techniques and knowledge to make her a better pilot, instructor, and mentor. When she is not flying, she loves being outdoors, taking care of her plants, golfing, and traveling with family and friends.

*The **NAFI Master Flight Instructor Accreditation** is earned by aviation educators based upon a system of advanced professional standards and peer review. The accreditation identifies and publicly recognizes those teachers of flight who demonstrate an ongoing commitment to excellence, professional growth, and service to the aviation community. The NAFI Master Instructor accreditation is for two years and may be used to renew an FAA flight instructor certificate. Applicants must have been a CFI for two years and have given 1,000 hours of flight instruction. In addition, candidates must meet and document activity in four NAFI Master Instructor categories (Instructor, Educator, Service to the Aviation Community, and Professional Activity).*

*Members of the **National Association of Flight Instructors** work as independent instructors, at flight schools, universities, FBOs, corporate flight departments and in the military. Since 1967, NAFI and its members, who teach in thirty countries, are dedicated to increasing and maintaining the professionalism of flight instruction. NAFI members influence active pilots daily: students working to become pilots, current pilots training to advance their skills with new ratings or certificates and pilots who seek to improve their skills with recurrent training. NAFI also serves as an advocate with industry and government as a voice for flight instruction. NAFI helps shape the current and future direction of flight training. For more information about NAFI or the NAFI Master Instructor program call **866-806-6156** or visit www.NAFINet.org.*