



Herbert W. (Bill) Powley inspires at Flight Instructor Hall of Fame Ceremony.

Kalamazoo, MI, July 27, 2023

A ceremony attended by more than 100 flight instructors and other aviation professionals saw the induction of famed CFI Lt. Col. Herbert W. (Bill) Powley, USAF (Ret.) into the Flight Instructor Hall of Fame. Powley joins an elite group of individuals who have been recognized for their significant contributions to flight instruction.

NAFI Chairperson, Karen Kalishek introduced Lt. Col Powley at the ceremony held during the National Association of Flight Instructors' annual breakfast meeting at AirVenture 2023. Powley then gave an inspirational address that touched on the many lessons he learned throughout his distinguished career in aviation, beginning with graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy followed by more than 23 years as a fighter pilot, flight instructor, and test pilot, including two tours in Vietnam flying 347 missions.



But the main focus of Powley's address was the foundation he formed after retirement from the Air Force. His FLIGHT Foundation (Flight Lesson Instructional Grants Helping Teens) was created to introduce young people to aviation. Powley has personally raised over \$1.9 million. He has flown almost 12,000 students on more than 4,000 discovery flights, most of which were free.

Powley has been an active member and leader in many aviation organizations, including the Air Force Association, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the Experimental Aircraft Association and NAFI. In 2010 he received the A Scott Crossfield Aerospace Science Teacher of the Year Award from the National Aviation Hall of Fame. The Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame (TAHOF) created a special award to recognize him that same year (Tennessee Aviation Person of the Year). In 2011 he received Tennessee's highest aviation recognition, the Career Contributions to Aviation Award. In 2013, was inducted into the Tennessee Aviation Hall-of-Fame.

NAFI Chairman Emeritus Robert Meder presented Lt. Col Powley with an award to recognize his induction into the Flight Instructor Hall of Fame.

About the Flight Instructor Hall of Fame

The Flight Instructor Hall of Fame was established to honor flight instructors who have made significant contributions to aviation education and flight instruction. The honor highlights the important role flight instructors play as a foundation for the safety of the entire national air transportation system.

About NAFI

NAFI is the administrator of the Flight Instructor Hall of Fame. NAFI is dedicated to providing support and recognition for flight instructors, increasing their professionalism, and strengthening their voice in the aviation industry. NAFI's membership is open to flight instructors, student pilots, and others in the aviation community. NAFI programs and membership provide a way for instructors to work together to promote aviation safety and education.

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