



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **PATRICK HOWELL EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION**

**KALAMAZOO, MI — 10/1/2022** The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Patrick Howell has earned accreditation as a NAFI Associate Master Flight Instructor.

Howell's life-long passion for aviation was cemented at four years old when his grandfather, a retired Air Force pilot, took him for a tour of a C-130 Hercules. Since then, he's thought of little else besides flying, which led to a career in



the Air Force. Howell graduated from The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, completing navigator training and qualifying on the B-52H Stratofortress heavy bomber. He progressed to instructor navigator and flight examiner and acquired more than 2,700 hours, including 800 instructor hours and a tour of duty with the B-52 "school house." He also earned a Master of Science in Aeronautics degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, with dual specializations in aviation safety and human factors.

The Air Force also led Howell to general aviation, where he logged his first thirty hours in a Diamond DA-20. Over the years, he continued to pursue new certificates and ratings, including private, commercial, single engine land and sea, and multi-engine land certificates, as well as an instrument rating and a tailwheel endorsement. After several years of GA flying, Howell successfully passed his CFI checkride and began teaching, adding a CFII rating a couple of years later.

Howell began his flight instructing career with the Minot Aero Center in Minot, North Dakota, before an Air Force transfer moved him to Omaha, Nebraska, where he currently teaches with Oracle Aviation at Millard Airport. In Omaha, Howell is a FAASTeam Representative, and facilitates the monthly Omaha IMC Club. Howell has also periodically volunteered with Pilots N Paws. When he's not teaching, Howell enjoys growing the next generation of pilots, taking his five-year-old son flying in a flying club-owned 1946 Aeronca Champ as often as he can.

*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 30 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](http://www.NAFINet.org).*