



# NEWS RELEASE

## National Association of Flight Instructors 2021 Jack J. Eggspuehler Service Awarded to Thomas P. Turner

August 26, 2021, Portage, MI – NAFI is pleased to announce Thomas P. Turner as the winner of the 2021 Jack J. Eggspuehler Service Award – the highest honor bestowed by the NAFI Board of Directors. The award is given to deserving members, industry leaders, and/or organizations that perform, past and present, outstanding services for NAFI to the benefit of its members.

“Mr. Turner is a great educator, author, presenter, flight instructor and good friend,” said Bob Meder, NAFI’s Board Chair. “His dedication to NAFI and flight instruction overall is an inspiration. Sharing his time, experience and good nature to NAFI is just one of the many things that makes us proud to select him for this award.”

An active flight instructor for over 30 years, Mr. Turner specializes in type specific transition and recurrent training in Beech Bonanzas and Barons. He has published six books and many hundreds of articles on flying technique and safety. For the past 18 years, Tom has led the education and training efforts of the 10,000-member American Bonanza Society while simultaneously producing his free *FLYING LESSONS Weekly* blog at [www.mastery-flight-training.com](http://www.mastery-flight-training.com). Mr. Turner served on the NAFI board and played a significant role in helping NAFI refine its business plans and practices, facilitating the organization’s growth and increasing stature in the aviation industry.

Recently, Mr. Turner’s service to NAFI includes presenting on Mentor*LIVE*, participating in the NAFI 10 Question CFI Challenge, adding commentary to the NAFI Briefing Room and teaching two Professional Development Program courses.

In addition to the prestigious Jack J. Eggspuehler Service Award, Mr. Turner was the 2008 FAA Central Region Flight Instructor of the Year, the 2010 National FAA*STeam* Representative of the Year, and in 2015 was inducted into the Flight Instructor Hall of Fame. He continues to instruct, write, lecture and publish extensively from his home in The Air Capital, Wichita, Kansas.

Mr. Turner noted, “In every discussion, each symposium and industry gathering on ways to reduce the fatal accident rate I’ve been part of over the last two decades the conclusion has always been “we need to improve the quality of flight instruction.” He added, “I’m proud to be part of NAFI for its dedication to increasing the knowledge,

effectiveness and professionalism of flight instructors, and honored to receive this award for my contributions to the effort.”

Jack J. Eggspuehler, founder of the National Association of Flight Instructors and a member of the Flight Instructor Hall of Fame, served as president of the NAFI for more than 30 years. The award, named in his honor, is presented to an individual or organization making a significant contribution to flight instructors, flight instruction or aviation education. NAFI congratulates Thomas P. Turner as the 2021 Awardee.

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#### *About NAFI*

*Members of the National Association of Flight Instructors work as independent instructors, at flight schools, universities, FBOs, corporate flight departments, airlines 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.*