



PINEHURST NC HANGAR #218

August 16th 2021 Meeting – Discussion Topics

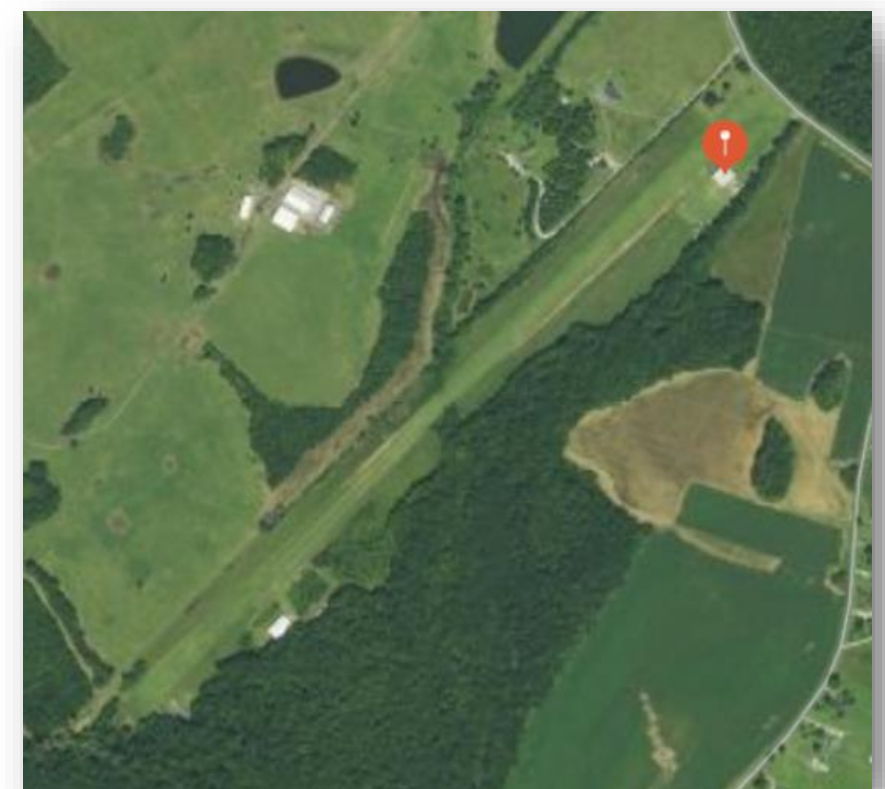
- **Q of the Month:** “What was the worst aircraft you ever flew, and why?” **Prepare 30 Sec. Response**
- **Oshkosh 2021** – Governor Murray Recap (**MOVIE!**)
- **NCAM & A-26 Tour 8/14/21** – Attendee Recap
- **CLT Wing Ding** - Saturday, September 11
- **Triple Tree Fly-In** – September 20-26
- **NCAM Fly-In** – Saturday, October 16th
- **QB Carolinas Oktoberfest** – Sat., October 2nd, F-V
- **In Holding Pattern:** Pope AB, Hickory Av. Museum, Army Aviation Heritage Foundation - Huey rides
- **A of the Month:** **30 Second Max Response Please!**





CLT Hangar Wing Ding – QB Only

- Invitation from Steve Langford, Alt Key Man
- September 10-12, Fri.-Sun., camping on field
- Jenkins Field, private, NE Chester Airport (KSNC)
- Address: 565 E. Chappell Rd Rock Hill, SC 29730
- Runways 05/23: 4000 ft. Elv.: 416 ft. (est.)
- Airfield is not on the charts
- Coordinates: 34.83N / 81.13W
- CTAF 122.9. KDCM AWOS 120.975
- Monitor 122.7 for skydiving.
- More details coming.





PINEHURST NC HANGAR #218

QB MEMBER PROFILES

PROFILE NUMBER 9

Richard Reynolds (QB 1536)

Zachary Reynolds (QB 3708)

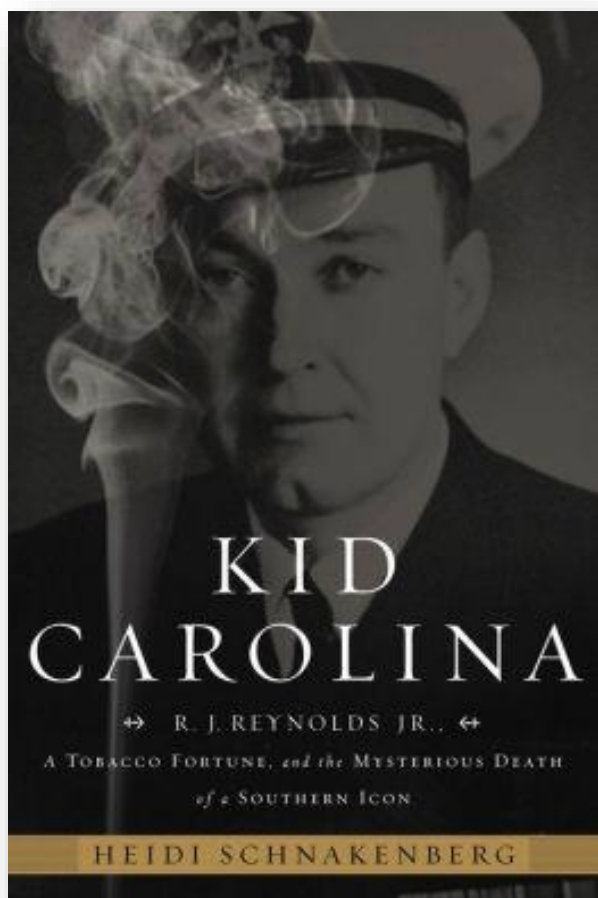
Hangar: New York (NY)



QB Profiles – Richard & Zachary Reynolds, Infamous Carolinians



QB Profiles – Richard J. Reynolds, Jr.



- Born **Richard Joshua Reynolds, Jr.** on April 4, 1906, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, to **Richard Joshua Reynolds, Sr. (RJR)** and **Mary Katherine (Smith) Reynolds**.
- His father had started a tobacco company in the 1870s, which was formally established as the **R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company** in 1890. Well-known brands include s Camel, Newport, Doral, Eclipse, Kent and Pall Mall.
- Richard Jr. attended public schools in Winston-Salem as well as **Culver Military Academy** in Indiana (as did QB **Elliott White Springs**), the Tome School in Maryland, and Woodberry Forest in Virginia.
- After graduation from high school, he studied **mechanical engineering** and played **football** at **North Carolina State College**, today NCSU.
- His **first business venture** involved the establishment of a weekly local newspaper titled ***The Three-Cent Pup***, which he started in 1917 with his friends Bill Sharpe and Bosley Crowther.

QB Profiles – Richard J. Reynolds. Jr.



- Reynolds, known to friends as “Dick”, had a strong interest in aviation and, at the age of 18 (1924), **obtained his pilot’s license.**
- He was convinced that air passenger and freight transport held great economic opportunity and **purchased Curtiss Field** (later Roosevelt Field) on Long Island, New York. He had taken lessons there from the **Curtiss Exhibition Company.**
- This was the airfield from which QB **Charles Lindbergh** took off for his famous flight to Paris in 1927.
- Reynolds established the **Ireland Amphibian Company** of Mineola, New York, in 1926, and actively participated in the development of the first amphibian planes produced in the United States. (image middle left: **Ireland P-3B Privateer** c/n 84 at Roosevelt Field, 1930s)
- He also served as president of **Reynolds Aviation** from 1927 to 1929. It provided commuter flights to New York, Detroit, Philadelphia, and Baltimore with weekend taxi service to Wrightsville & Myrtle Beaches. (Image lower left: dedication of Miller Municipal Airport in 1930, W-S.)



QB Profiles – Richard J. Reynolds. Jr.



- At the age of 21 (1927), Reynolds gained access to a trust income of \$100,000 and used it to **live lavishly**. He bought expensive cars, frequented fashionable cafes in New York, and showered women with extravagant gifts. He shared an inheritance of \$50m with his mother & 3 siblings. (left, his mother Katherine Smith Reynolds of Mt. Airy, NC).
- In **1927**, he **mysteriously disappeared**, generating rumors that something had happened to him. He was later found in St. Louis, where he had gone **with a woman**.
- He paid for his boisterous lifestyle when, in 1929, he **killed a man while driving drunk**. Reynolds was convicted of manslaughter and **spent five months in jail**.
- He bought an **1800-ton steam freighter** and, from 1929 to 1932, captained the ship throughout the seas of North and South America & southern Europe.

QB Profiles – Richard J. Reynolds. Jr.



- Reynolds returned to Winston-Salem in 1932, and on January 1, 1933, married **Elizabeth McGaw “Blitz” Dillard**, daughter of another tobacco tycoon. Before divorcing in 1946, the couple had **four sons**: Richard Joshua, III, John Dillard, Zachary Taylor, and William Neil.
- During the 1930s and early 1940s, Reynolds participated in a variety of business ventures. In 1935, he established **Precision Films, Inc.**, a laboratory that developed color motion picture film, and served as president of the company for a time.
- In 1940, he purchased the **bankrupt American Mail Line** of Seattle, a shipping company, which he owned until 1951. Scrapping the old ships and building new ones, Reynolds was took advantage of the **wartime shipping needs** in the Pacific.
- He also saved **Delta Airlines** from financial troubles by buying a large share of its stock in 1940. Previously he had been a major stockholder in **Eastern Airlines**, but when Eastern refused to make Winston-Salem the hub of its Carolina operations, Reynolds sold some of his stock and invested instead in **Delta**, thus enabling Delta to remain competitive.

QB Profiles – Richard J. Reynolds. Jr.



- Reynolds began a public service career with his election as **mayor of Winston-Salem in 1940**. One of his goals was the clearing of the slums. Despite opposition from local slumlords, Reynolds was able to obtain a grant from the U.S. Housing Authority to finance this project.
- His political activity was extended beyond the local level in 1941, when Reynolds became **chairman of the finance committee** for the national **Democrat Party**.
- His political activities were interrupted when Reynolds joined the **U.S. Navy** at the start of **World War II**. He served as **chief navigator on the USS Makin Island** and later was awarded the **Bronze Star** for the navigational skill he exhibited at **Iwo Jima** and in the **Philippines**.
- He was released to inactive duty in 1945 with the rank of **lieutenant commander**.

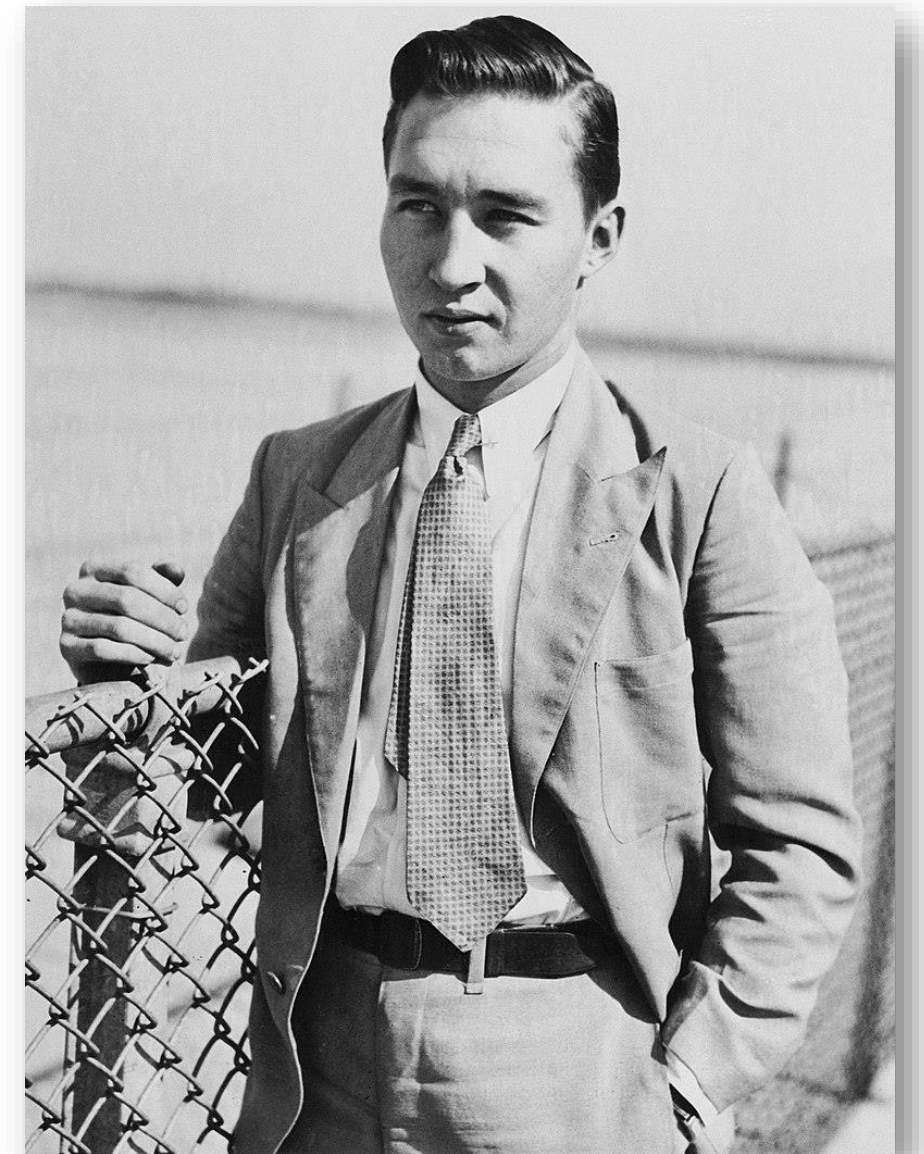


QB Profiles – Richard J. Reynolds. Jr.





To be continued ... with the Black Sheep of the family:
Zachary Smith Reynolds



QB Profiles – “Smith” Reynolds



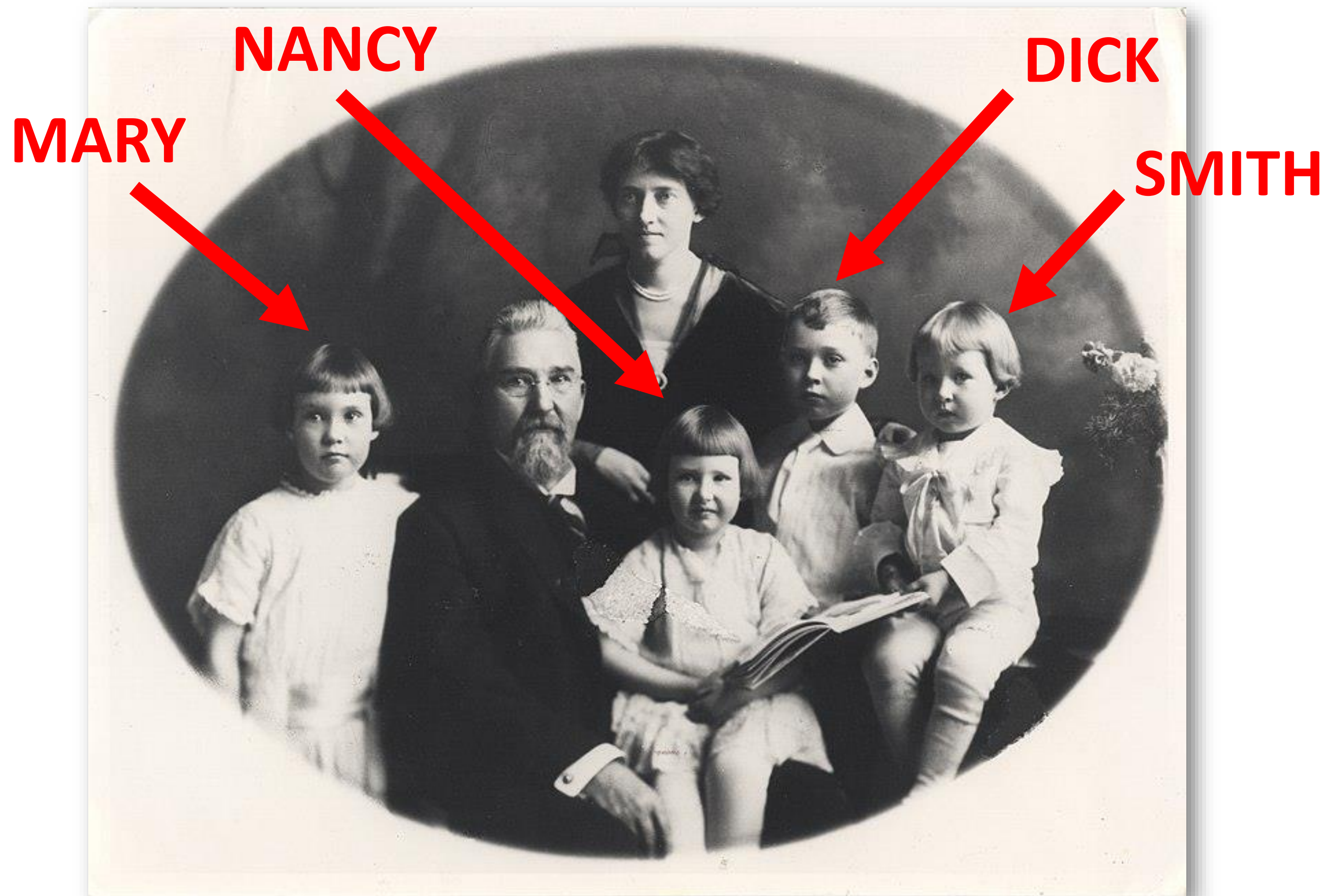
1914 – age 3



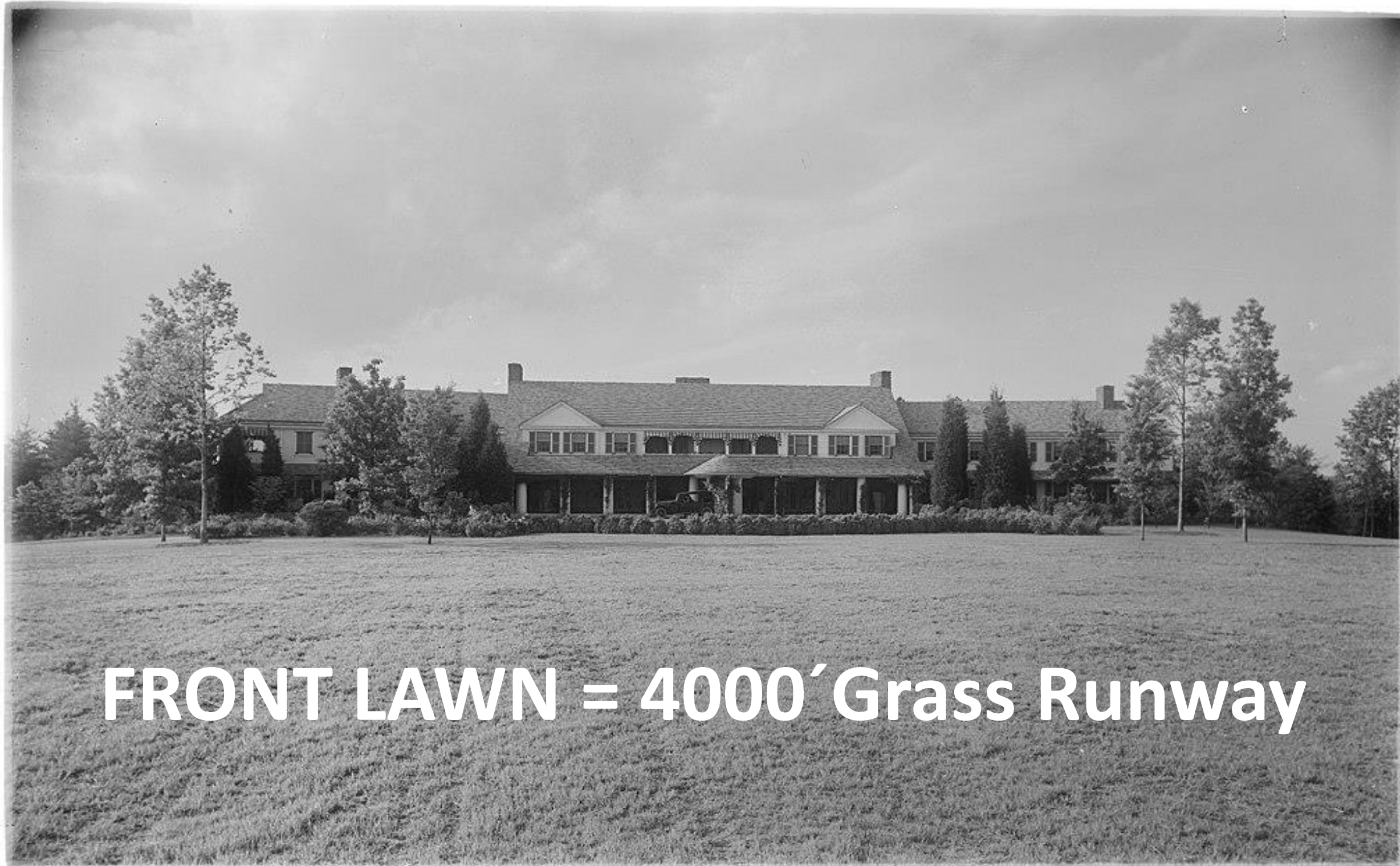
1924 – age 13

- Born **Zachary Smith Reynolds, Jr.** on November 5th, 1911, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the youngest child of **Richard Joshua Reynolds, Sr. (RJR)** and **Mary Katherine (Smith) Reynolds**.
- His father died of pancreatic cancer in 1918, his mother in 1924 of a brain embolism. His parents will left him a fortune of \$30m, equal to \$300m today.
- Home schooled at **Reynolda**, the family mansion in Wake Forest, until 1924, Smith was sent to the **Woodberry Forest boarding school** in northern Virginia upon his mother’s death. (During his two years there he wrote two suicide notes.)
- Smith dropped out of school at **age fifteen** to join **brother Dick** and work for the newly founded **Reynolds Aviation**, located at the Miller Municipal Airport in Winston-Salem, today Smith Reynolds Field.

QB Profiles – “Smith” Reynolds



QB Profiles – “Smith” Reynolds



FRONT LAWN = 4000' Grass Runway



QB Profiles – “Smith” Reynolds



QB Profiles – “Smith” Reynolds



QB Profiles – “Smith” Reynolds



1926 – age 15



**Waco 10 with
220hp Wright J-5
“Whirlwind” radial
engine.**

- In summer 1926, at age 15, Smith Reynolds took his **first flying lessons** from Lewis S. "Mac" McGinnis, a flying instructor for **Curtiss Flying School**.
- The brothers would **practice takeoffs and landings** on the 4000' front lawn of the Reynolda bungalow, and perform tricks in the air to terrify their sisters Mary and Nancy.
- His 1928 financial records show expenses for a new **Waco 10 Whirlwind** plane, pilot's insurance, aviation club memberships, aviation magazines, parachutes, etc.
- In 1928 Smith earned his private pilot's license **at the age of 16** and became the **youngest licensed transport pilot** in the country at **age 17**. His license was personally signed by **Orville Wright**.
- In 1930, at **age 19**, he set an unofficial record for the **fastest flight from New York to Los Angeles**.
- Roughly three weeks following his 20th birthday, Zachary Smith Reynolds, QB 3708 (NY) applied to the **Quiet Birdmen** November 28, 1930, with 500 hours.



QB Profiles – “Smith” Reynolds



Barstormers Roscoe Turner and Harry Runser landed on the Reynolda lawn in 1920. Nancy Reynolds is one of the children sitting on the plane.



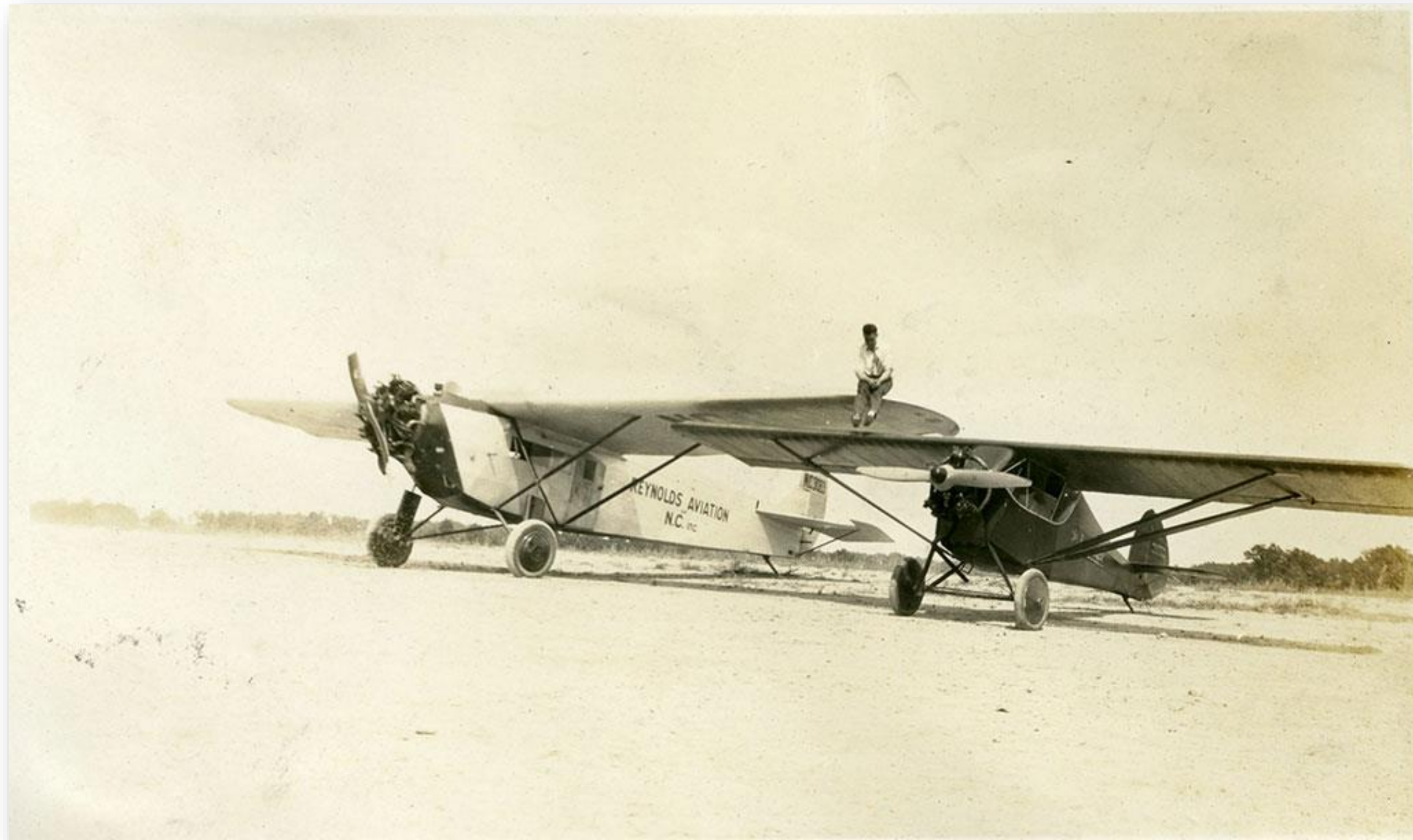
QB Profiles – “Smith” Reynolds



One of the Wacos owned by Reynolds Airways, a company founded by Smith's older brother Dick.



QB Profiles – “Smith” Reynolds



Other aircraft owned by Reynolds Aviation, based at Miller Field in Winston-Salem, NC.



The 17,000 Mile Flight of 898 Whiskey

- Reynolds' **biggest achievement in aviation** was the longest point-to-point solo **flight** at the time, at 17,000 miles over land, lasting from **December 1931 to April 1932**.
- The journey began in **London** and ended in **Hong Kong**; in between, flying over territories including the Mediterranean, North Africa, the Syrian Desert, and India.
- Reynolds began preparing for the trip in spring of 1931, buying a **Savoia-Marchetti S.56 biplane**, built by American Aeronautical Corporation in Port Washington, New York.
- The aircraft was specially customized to have a **single seat and extra fuel** capacity for **1,000 miles cruising range**. (10+ hours!)
- Reynolds and childhood friend, reporter **Robert “Slick” Shepherd** created a business arrangement in which Shepard would **ghostwrite the story** of the flight around the world and syndicate it through a national press agency. Reynolds requested that it be made to **sound exciting and unforgettable**, in the spirit of other famous aviation exploits of the day. In return, Shepherd would receive half of the selling price for the story.



The 17,000 Mile Flight of 898 Whiskey

- Reynolds kept a handwritten flight log, "**Log of Aeroplane NR-898W**," documenting his impressions and flight data during the journey, to be referenced for future publication by Shepherd. The log reveals the **challenging and often dangerous nature** of the trip.
- The plane went through near constant **mechanical problems**, leading to numerous **forced landings**. Reynolds had to fix his own equipment, usually completely alone and in a remote area; he records becoming **nearly stranded** multiple times. Flying over **poorly charted land**, he often navigated only by following railroads, rivers, coastlines, or landmarks seen on a road map.
- The flight was **not recorded in popular aviation history**. Reynolds was unable to complete the last 270 miles of the route by plane: When flying between Haiphong to Chanchiang, China, the **plane almost ditched**.
- Reynolds was forced to **lighten the load** by throwing supplies overboard in order to take off again. Landing in Chanchiang revealed **engine damage** that would prevent the plane from operating without extensive repairs; as such, Reynolds made it to **Hong Kong by catching a ride on an oil ship**.



The 17,000 Mile Flight of 898 Whiskey

- He then **cancelled the planned publication** of the journey, abandoning the flight log and rescinding the previous offer to Slick Shepherd.
- Upon returning to the United States, Reynolds **settled with his new wife** at Reynolda for the remaining summer.
- He enrolled in New York University's **aeronautical engineering program** for the fall of 1932, and hired on a NYU graduate student to tutor him in mathematics in the meantime. Reynolds **would die** before ever entering into the program.
- The NR 898 aircraft used in the flight was eventually shipped from Hong Kong to Seattle, Washington. It was sold by Reynolds' estate on August 4, 1933; six years later it was **destroyed during a hangar fire** while being stored in Salem, Oregon. A **Savoia-Marchetti S.56C** aircraft, like the one used by Reynolda in 1931, is on display at the **Carolinas Aviation Museum** in Charlotte, North Carolina.
- After Reynolds' death, his sister Nancy Susan Reynolds had the **flight log privately published** to honor his memory. The 31 original copies were distributed among family and friends. Reprinted copies of the log are sold at the **Reynolda House museum gift shop**.



The 17,000 Mile Flight of 898 Whiskey

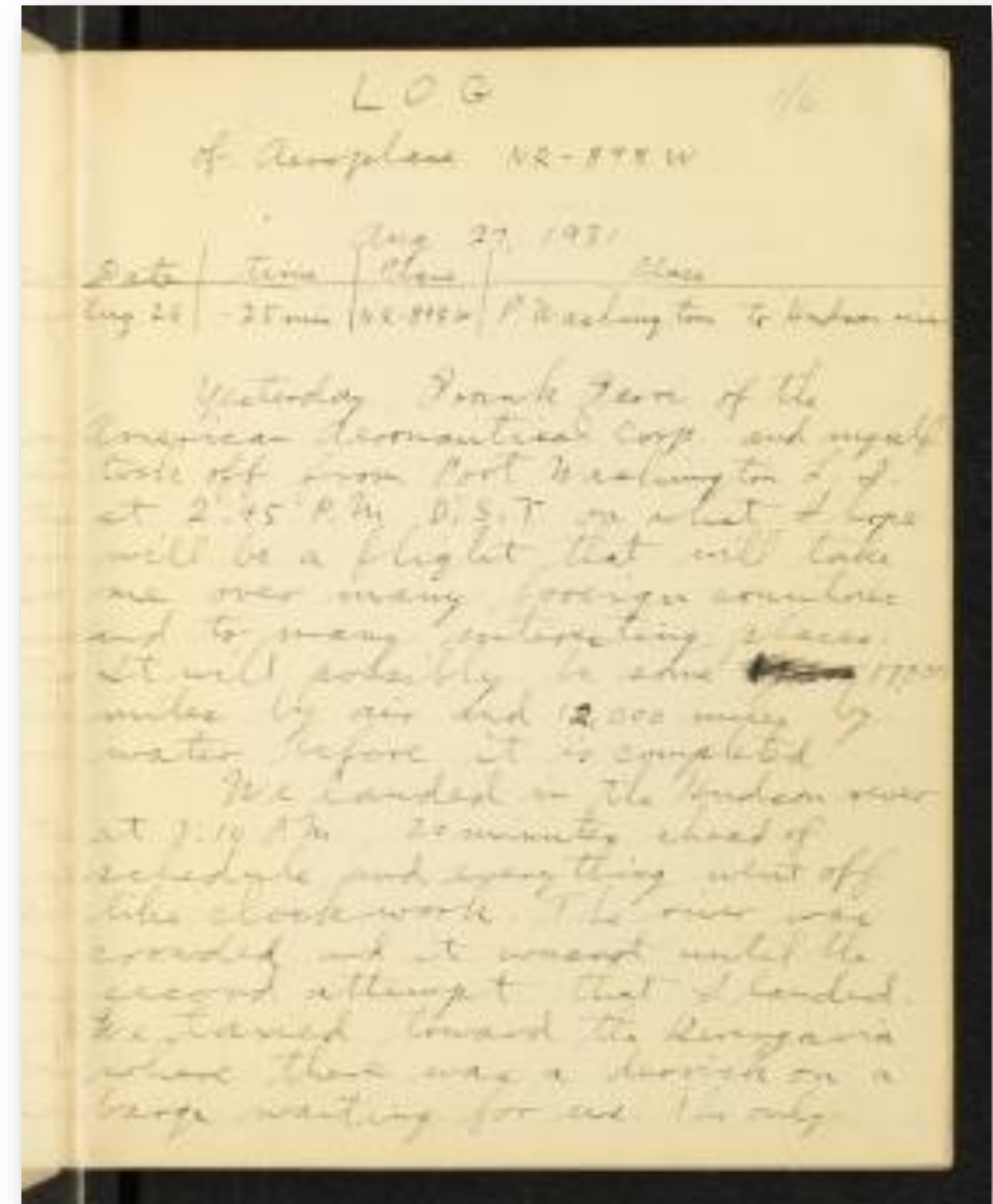
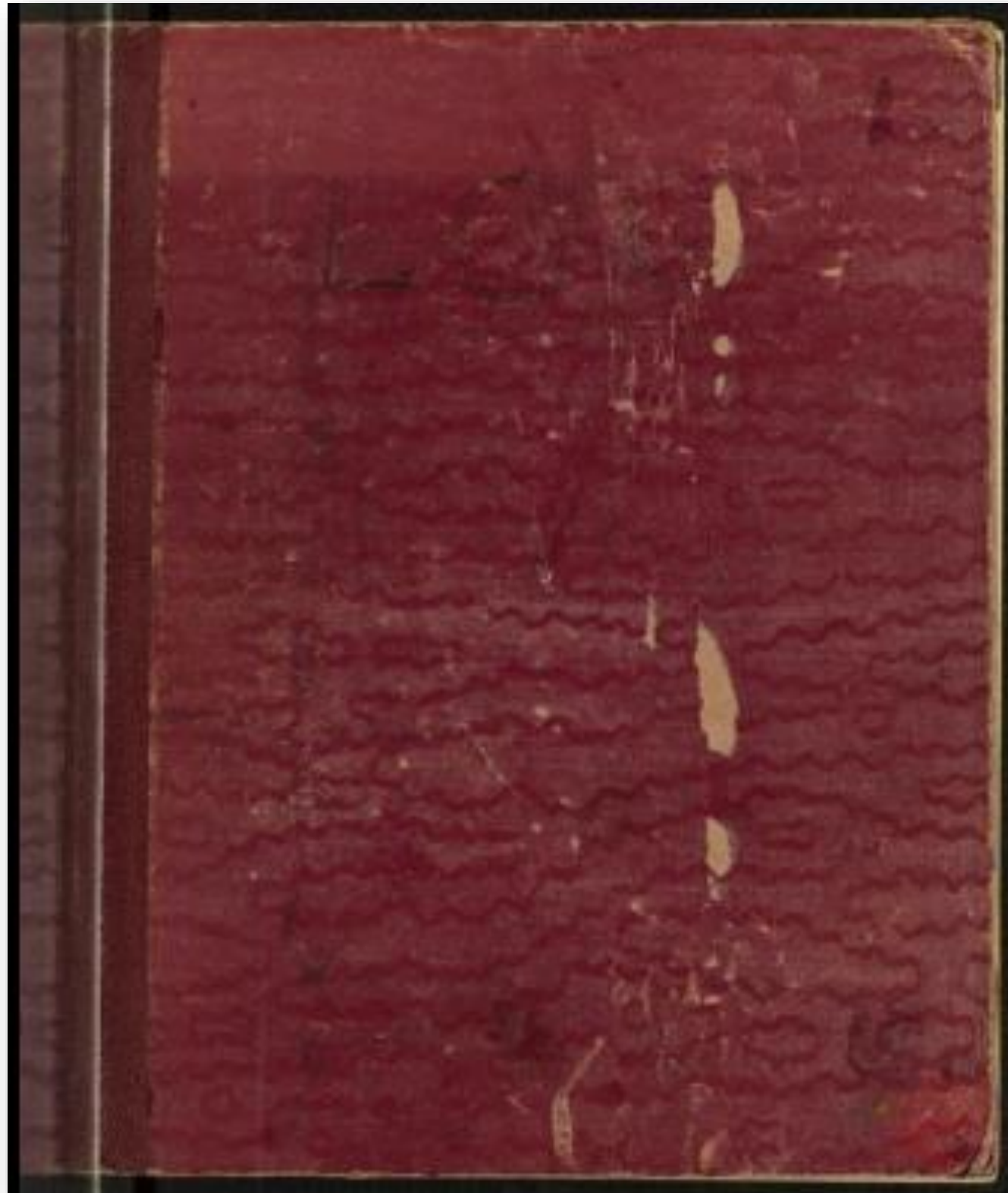


Smith acquired an Italian Savoia-Marchetti S.56, built by the **American Aeronautical Corporation** in Port Washington, NY (Long Island).



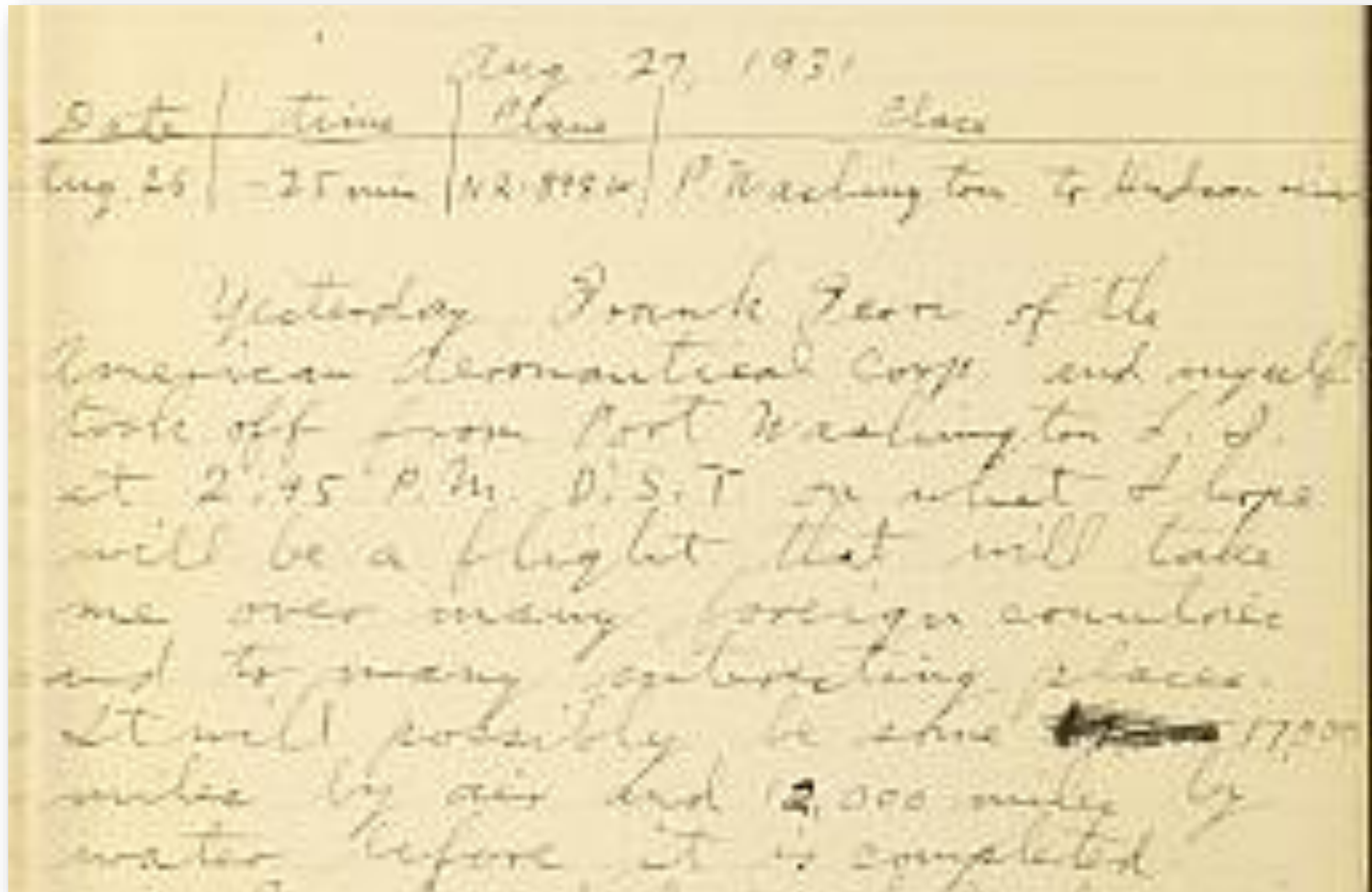
The 17,000 Mile Flight of 898 Whiskey

(Logbook is online in the SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA DIGITAL ARCHIVE of Virginia Tech University)



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The Private Life of “Smith” Reynolds



- In summer 1929, 17 year-old Reynolds began courting **Anne Ludlow Cannon** of Concord, North Carolina, granddaughter of James William Cannon and an **heiress of the Cannon Mills** textile fortune. He would **fly to Concord** in order to take her on rides in his plane.
- Anne's father Joe F. Cannon insisted that the **couple be married**. In the early morning of November 16, 1929, he had **the teenagers** and himself chauffeured to York, South Carolina, arriving around 2:00 AM, to be married in a shotgun wedding. **Anne was pregnant** with Smith's child.
- The marriage **quickly deteriorated**; at the annual society Christmas party in the Winston-Salem Robert E. Lee hotel, Reynolds and Cannon got into a fight. Reynolds' sister Nancy Susan would recall: "I know **he had a very bad temper**. Really, when he got angry, he was really angry."
- By early 1930, despite Anne being pregnant, the pair had **effectively separated**. In August 1930, Anne Cannon gave birth to a daughter, **Anne Cannon Forsyth** (image left), who was sent to live with her grandparents in Blowing Rock, North Carolina.



The Private Life of “Smith” Reynolds



- In April 1930, Reynolds went to see *The Little Show* in Baltimore, produced by his friend **Dwight Deere Wiman**, heir to the John Deere tractor fortune. He was dazzled by Broadway star **Libby Holman** and her performance, including her signature song ***Moanin' Low***. Libby was **seven years older** than Smith, then 19.
- After being introduced, Reynolds followed up with flowers and notes. Holman would spend the 1930 summer in Florida with her friends; **he followed her down in his plane**, becoming part of *her entourage*, despite being married to Anne.
- Libby Holman went on to star in the smash-hit Broadway revue ***Three's a Crowd***. Describing her career at this point, a journalist said: "Her name was the toast of Broadway. In *The Little Show* she had been a hit. In this new venture, a million hits in one." Reynolds joined her in New York as the show cycled through over 200 performances; **he saw almost every performance**, sitting in the front row. He became known as "**Smitty, the traveling bear**" in Holman's friend group, referencing his pet-like devotion to following her around the world.

Moanin' Low – First Hit by Libby Holman



Moanin' low, my sweet man; I love him so
Though **he's mean as can be**
He's the kind of man needs the kind
Of a woman like me

Gonna die if my sweet man should pass me by
If I die, where'll he be?
He's the kind of a man needs the kind
Of a woman like me

Don't know any reason why
He treats me so poorly
What have I gone and done
Makes my troubles double with his worries
When surely I ain't deserving of none

The Private Life of “Smith” Reynolds



- Although they began dating and were identified as a couple, they continued to quarrel often; Reynolds would also **continue to make threats of suicide to her**.
- Smith's **divorce with Anne** was finalized November 23, 1931. Six days later, on November 29, 1931, **Smith Reynolds married Libby Holman** in the parlor of Monroe, Michigan's Justice of the Peace.
- There was no time for a honeymoon: the new Libby Reynolds left to go back on tour, and Smith Reynolds took his 17,000 mile journey. They both agreed to **meet in Hong Kong** for an official honeymoon. After the trip was over, the couple returned to the United States and settled for the summer at Reynolda.
- Smith Reynolds died under mysterious circumstances from a **shot to his head** from a semi-automatic Mauser .32 caliber pistol on the early morning of **July 6, 1932**, after a 21st birthday party for his friend Charles Gideon Hill, Jr., Reynolds' childhood friend and Anne Cannon's first cousin.
- To this day it remains speculation whether Smith committed suicide or was murdered. Libby committed suicide through carbon monoxide poisoning on June 18th, 1971 at age 67.

QB Profiles – “Smith” Reynolds



**Reynolds family grave in Salem Cemetery
Winston-Salem, NC.**

Legacy – Z Smith Reynolds Foundation

- Reynolds' siblings underwent a **prolonged fight** to receive their share of Reynolds' estate, after which in 1936 they established a trust in his name that provided for his namesake foundation, the **Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation**.
- Ironically, the foundation's **first grant in 1937** went towards the North Carolina State Health Department's activities to **treat venereal disease** in North Carolinians, with \$1.5 million being contributed over the course of the 10-year grant.
- **Anne Cannon Reynolds**, Smith's first wife, served on the Boards of the **Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation** in Winston-Salem and the **North Carolina Fund**, and was President of both foundations.

Z. Smith Reynolds
FOUNDATION

MAPPINGTHELEFT.com



CAVU FOREVER BROTHER QBs



Thank You



PINEHURST NC HANGAR #218

**THESE QB MEMBER PROFILES FOUND AT
www.aerosouth.net/QB**



Marc Smith recommends: “Flying with Arthur Godfrey” on Youtube. “It’s full of nostalgia and really takes you back in time. Eddie Rickenbacker (NY hangar), Arthur Godfrey (NY hangar), Henry Tyndall “Dick” Merrill (NY hangar), and Tony LeVier (LAX hangar). Eddie was the head of Eastern Airlines at the time.. enjoy

