

Ryan Dawson

Spokane Turbine Center ~ MPAS (Mission Padamo Aviation & Support)



Both Jenny and I have felt God's leading to the mission field of Venezuela, South America, for quite some time now. It is our passion and desire to be a part of bringing God's Word to the remote areas and to see people understand who God is. (Romans 10:14-15) With this call in mind, we have set out to prepare ourselves for service. This past May, I graduated from Moody Aviation with a Bachelor of Science in Mission Aviation Technology. After graduation, I went on to obtain my CFI and CFII ratings. With some of the primary educational foundations laid, I am eager to see how God will work through me and my family to develop an aviation program in Venezuela.

My grandparents have been missionaries in Venezuela since 1953, and like my father before me, I was born and raised among the Yanomamö. Because of this, I already know the language and culture very well. What a huge advantage the Lord has provided me – to know the language and culture well enough to quickly establish a safe and effective aviation operation.

Politically, Venezuela continues to be unstable and hostile towards American missionaries. In 2005, President Chavez ordered New Tribes Mission to leave all tribal areas and they complied with this order in February of 2006. MAF, the mission organization that was the primary aviation support system for MPAS, left as well. However, the Lord has allowed me the unique privilege of maintaining both American and Venezuela citizenship. As such, I am among a very few people who are still able to fly in Venezuela in service to the Lord and his missionaries there.

Developing an aviation program in Venezuela is vital if the work of medical evacuation, Bible translation and church planting is going to successfully continue. And, again, I feel privileged to have trained at Moody Aviation because the quality of training I am receiving will uniquely equip me to serve, not in an existing program, but as the developer and Chief Pilot in a program He will grow there. As you can imagine, the quality of training is of vital importance to the efficiency and safety of the program I am able to develop.

Jenny's parents were also missionaries in Venezuela for over 15 years. Although she cannot speak Yanomamö she does know the national language, Spanish, as well as the Venezuelan culture. She too feels that God is going to use her in Venezuela and is eager to start the final years of preparation to move overseas. We were married in May of 2009 and Jenny, having obtained her nursing degree, currently works as a Registered Nurse at a local hospital here in Spokane in addition to raising our young son and daughter, Ashton and Aria.



I am currently serving with Spokane Turbine Center as an associate instructor. This position is a great opportunity for me, as it allowing me to further my own turbine training while serving the Lord and missionaries through this partner organization. How exciting to be children of the Lord and watch as He weaves details together to form a grand design! MPAS currently has a Kodiak aircraft on order through Quest. What better way is there to prepare for utilizing that amazing machine in service to the people of Amazonas?

We serve a mighty God who continues to lead us on our journey in becoming missionaries.