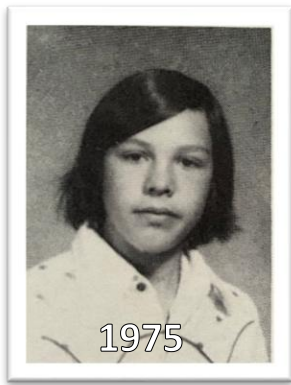


Dwane R. Boucher BIO



Youth

My family moved to Rossmoor in 1969 where I was enrolled for 6th grade at Rossmoor Elementary School. I attended Oak Junior High School and earned the school's art award. At age 15 I earned the rank of Eagle Scout and began my high school years at Los Al. After finishing my Private Pilot's license at the age 17, I skipped my senior year and sailed by container ship to Panama where I stayed with family and learned to speak Spanish. I did make it back home in time to graduate with my "class of 1976" classmates. I immediately enrolled at California State University, Long Beach as an Art Major, but ultimately graduated in 1980 with a degree in Business Administration.

Military

After dipping my toe into the real world of business, and not liking it, I decided I was probably better suited to pursue aviation in the military. I was accepted as a pilot candidate by the USAF, was commissioned into "Active Duty" as a Second Lieutenant in 1981, and finally earned my pilot wings in 1982. I received my "dream" assignment flying the venerable C-130s. After nine years of flying the C-130 on amazing missions to amazing places, and a final tour as an exchange pilot with the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), I decided to transition to the U.S. Air Force Reserves located at March AFB in 1990. There I went on to fly the C-141, and C-17 for 19 more years. After 28 years of total service and nearly 10,000 hours of as a Command Pilot, I retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2010. As it turns out, my military aviation years were my best years of flying. Besides circling the globe multiple times over, I was also able to serve as an aircraft commander, instructor, evaluator, demonstration, and development test pilot. I also served as a Mission Commander for Operation "Deep Freeze" flights to Antarctica and Denton Amendment humanitarian airlift missions seeing to the needy worldwide. I was able to earn qualifications as a formation lead, air-refueling, fire-fighting, and air-drop pilot with thousands of pounds of cargo and thousands of troops, and paratroopers safely delivered into drop zones and landing zones throughout the world. I proudly served in combat in both Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF – in Afghanistan), and at the pinnacle of my flying military flying career, I was honored to have been selected to lead the best flight crews on to multiple wins of the prestigious Airlift Rodeo competitions.

Airlines

I was hired by Continental Airlines 1999 to fly the Boeing 737, and did so until 9/11 in 2001. That fateful morning, flying from Providence, RI to Newark, NJ, I had no idea how the lives of so many would soon be changed. It was only minutes after landing that the World Trade Center was hit, and only a few minutes later, hit again. Evacuated to the terminal, I watched the towers burn and ultimately collapse. In the aftermath, I was furloughed from Continental and four months later in Afghanistan with the Air Force Reserves. It wouldn't be until 2005 that I would return to the airlines and a name change to United Airlines. I went on to fly the Boeing 777 and 787. After 24 years and another 15,000 hours in my logbook, I retired from the airlines as a 787 Captain in 2023.

My Life Now

Living in Fallbrook, CA, I am married to the former Jenny Kanagy Brain, of Wooster Ohio, and have six children and nine grandchildren. Now that I'm retired, I have found myself better able to pursue those things that I believe can help make a difference in this world. Knights Antiquity Historical Society was formed and has been conducting Archaeological digs in Israel since 2000. Operation Knight Flight was formed to help charities access free humanitarian airlift by military aircraft worldwide. The Field of Flight Foundation was formed to introduce, and get youth started, in careers in aviation. The Heart-to-Heart program was instituted here in Fallbrook to directly assist community seniors who have become disconnected, or quietly forgotten. With the balance of my time, I serve as a modern-day Templar Knight, help at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), enjoy classic cars, flying my little airplane, "glamping" in our Airstream, and evenings of fine whiskey and cigars.