Dennis Edward Surber, Jr.

Dennis Edward Surber, Jr. was born April 1953, in Hinton, to the late Dennis Edward Surber, Sr. and Phyllis Jean Surber. He lived in Hinton until 1976.

Dennis is a 1971 graduate of Hinton High School where he was Student Body President and a member of the 1968 West Virginia Secondary Schools Activity Commission AA State Football Championship team. He worked as an announcer at WMTD AM Radio Station and played bass guitar with the Blues Condition. Surber received an Air Force ROTC scholarship at West Virginia University and earned a BS in Business Administration in 1975. He was a distinguished graduate of WVU Air Force ROTC. Dennis went to Air Force Pilot Training in 1976 at Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Oklahoma, where he won the Commander's Trophy that is awarded to the top pilot in the class. He received the T-38 Overall Flying Award. Dennis got his first choice of assignment, which was a C-141 at Charleston AFB, SC. He started as a Copilot, then Aircraft Commander, Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner. Surber instructed and evaluated pilots in all phases of C-141 operations worldwide, including transport, airdrop, aerial refueling and special operations. He helped establish a Wing Airdrop School. His military service, active and reserve, totaled ten years.

In 1983, Dennis went to work for People Express Airlines, which later merged with Continental Airlines in Newark, NJ. He flew as a Boeing 727 and 737 Captain.

In 1987, Surber went to work for Piedmont Airlines, which became U.S. Airways, now American Airlines. He worked as an Airbus Simulator Instructor Pilot, Airbus 319/320/321, where he trained and audited Check Airman, Instructor Pilots, Line Captains and First Officers. He was chosen to co-author curriculum to launch the Advanced Qualification Program (AQP), a new way of training pilots to prevent and trap errors, on the A-320. In addition to the A-320, he flew the Boeing 727, 737 and the Fokker 100.

After two bankruptcies at U.S. Airways, Dennis was hired as a management pilot for UPS Airlines. At UPS, Dennis was a B757/B767 Captain, Line Check Airman, Initial Operating Experience Instructor and Check Airman. He also "To exit, hit the "X" on your browser's tab for this page"

worked in the Simulator as a FAA Designee, Check Airman and Instructor. He conducted Check Airman and Instructor aircraft and simulator training observations. He developed, implemented and maintained the B757/767 AQP Initial Qualification, Captain Upgrade, Captain Down-bid, Requalification, and Special Purpose Operational Training (SPOT) courses. Dennis developed and facilitated New Instructor and Check Airman training, including Grading Calibration and Facilitated De-brief training using Threat and Error Management (TEM). He taught Crew Resource Management (CRM). Surber co-Chaired the CRM Advisory Group and conducted Aviation Safety Action Program (ASAP) training. He was a member of the witness preparation team for Management testimony at the National Transportation Safety Board investigation of the A-300 crash at Birmingham–Shuttlesworth Airport. He worked as a Systems Operations Supervisor in the Global Operations Center. He worked in Advanced Flight on the Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) Merging and Spacing Test Flights and Continuous Descent Arrivals (CDA's).

He holds the following FAA Certificates: Airline Transport Pilot, Flight Engineer, Aircraft Dispatcher and Certificate of Designation. He has 17,460 total flight hours.

Dennis has been married to Margaret Truett Surber for 43 years. They live in Yulee, FL. They have two children, Jackie Glazier who is the Professor of Clarinet at the University of Arizona, and Doug Surber, a business owner in Houston, TX. Jackie is married to Ivan Ugorich. At present they have one granddaughter, Mika and one grandson, Doug. Doug is married to Danielle Surber.

Dennis has been a Gideon for 23 years and teaches Adult Bible Study at their church.

Dennis Edward Surber, Jr., We Salute You!



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