
Richard Harris Suhr(1933 - 2015)

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April 17, 1933 ~ July 22, 2015

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Captain Richard 'Dick' Suhr, age 82. Dick was born in Sheridan Wyoming in 1933, and was the only child of Victor and Nena Suhr. He was raised in Buffalo, Wyoming. As a child, he was adept at catching trout in the local creeks, which were welcomed at the dinner table. He learned early on to hunt small game, and in due time was taking pack horses and his faithful dog into the mountains to hunt deer. He graduated from Johnson Co. High School in 1952, after which he attended and played baseball for the University of Wyoming. An accomplished pitcher, Dick played American Legion ball as well as on the Sheridan and Buffalo town teams. In 1954, he signed on with the Pittsburgh Baseball Org. and played for the Billings Mustangs in the Pioneer League in 1954. However, he left his baseball dreams behind when, in 1955, he enlisted in the Naval Aviation Cadet Program in Pensacola, FLA. By 1956, Dick was a Commissioned Naval Aviator assigned to VW-12 in Barbers Point, Hawaii. As a Naval Aviator, Dick flew the following aircraft: SNJ, T-28-SNB P2V, Lockheed Constellation WV-2, VF-1 (3A-16). He spent several years in Japan, and by the time of his discharge from the Navy in Oct. 1958, he was stationed in Iwakuni, Japan.

In 1959, Dick was hired by Northwest Airlines, beginning his 35-year long career as a commercial pilot. Originally based in Minnesota, he met and married Cynthia Nimmer in 1963. They had two daughters, Nicole and Jolie, and the family transferred to Seattle in 1971. During his time with Northwest, Dick captained both trans-Atlantic and trans-Pacific flights on the DC 6 and 7, the L-188, the B-727, 720, and 320, the DC 10 and the B -747.

Dick and Cynthia parted ways in 1980, and Dick continued to fly and pursue his love of boating. As a member of the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club, he met Linda Gaylord. They married in 1983 and enjoyed many boat trips throughout the San Juan Islands and Alaska over the ensuing years, always with their stalwart sea-faring cats along for the ride. Dick retired from Northwest Airlines in 1994, after which he and Linda continued to go boating, play golf, and travel both locally and abroad. For the last 15 years, they have enjoyed the "snowbird" lifestyle, spending summers in Semiahmoo, WA and the winter months in Scottsdale, AZ.

Dick was very loved by his family, and will be greatly missed. His grandchildren were a special source of joy for him. Dick is survived by his wife of 32 years, Linda Suhr; daughter Nicole and granddaughter Simone; daughter Jolie and granddaughter Lucie.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Dick's name to your local Humane Society or ASPCA.

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