



# Hell of a Ride: A First Person Biography of the Gutsy Test Pilot, Richard G. Dick Thomas, Notorious for His Bold, Daring and Dashing F

By Cynda Thomas, Velvet Thomas

iUniverse, United States, 2008. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 234 x 190 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. This biography brings to life the many struggles Dick encountered on his way to success; and the power plays and politics of the corporate involvement regarding his test pilot s career. Not all of Dick s airplane incidents are mentioned, but his significant stories come to life such as: his fiery crash in the T-33; his ejection over Mount Whitney; his spin tests in the F-5 s; and his final assignment in the black world as chief project pilot on the highly classified Tacit Blue. From his early childhood in up-state New York, to the difficulties of growing up in a harsh environment, he overcame illness and injury. He kept his determination to do something special, be a test pilot. In his senior years, it describes the tragedy of his pallidotomy surgery for Parkinson s disease that left him disabled and brought about early dementia. To say Dick was a controversial figure in the aerospace industry would be an understatement. To say Dick made his mark and contributed to his aerospace world would be accurate. However, both of...



#### Reviews

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-- Lydia Legros

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