



Congratulations Steve Highland on Passing your Private Pilot Checkride!!



Congratulations Justin Kunz on your FIRST SOLO!!

Congratulations Mike Ruffatto on Passing your Private Pilot Checkride!! (picture soon!)

Gene Littlefield

With great sadness we here at Blue Sky mourn the passing of aviation legend and dear friend Gene Littlefield on Saturday, October 1st after a courageous, year-long battle with a brain tumor. Gene and I have been friends since 1987 while working at A&M Aviation. He and Cheryl were active airshow performers doing a wing-walking act with their 450HP Stearman.

Blue Sky owes a tremendous amount to Gene. He and Cheryl owned and operated the Littlefield Aeroplane Company at Morris from 1996 until I bought their business and renamed it Blue Sky Aero in 2003 and still have members from back then. He was owner at one time of N55809, the Stearman now on line. He checked me out in that Stearman in 1999, which of course consisted of showing me a loop and roll. I doubt he hardly ever flew from point to point right-side up the whole time ☺

He was a teacher and mentor to many, recently as an instructor at Lewis while earning his Bachelor of Science degree. He proudly delivered a commencement speech at his graduation last spring, achieving yet another life-long goal.

I was fortunate enough to learn aerobatics from Gene in the Super Decathlon, and quickly discovered that in an acro lesson from Gene, a loop, roll or hammerhead was a "treat" after a LOT of inverted flying. He believed the maneuvers were not the most important part of acro instruction; it was learning how to recover when something went wrong.

This strongly held belief was one that helped make his and Cheryl's air show career a long and successful one and he spent his flying career impressing that on the acro community.



Gene lived a life like he flew –
defying gravity in style

A memorial will be held Aurora Airport, Sat. Oct 15th.

Glass Simulator Building (Red Hangar)

12:00 – 1:00 gathering of friends

1:00 flying memorial

<http://www.midwestflyer.com/?p=3592>

http://www.eaa.org/news/2011/2011-10-05_littlefield.asp