

# “WILLIE” FLIGHT 82

## *Order of Daedalians*

P.O. Box 11261, Chandler, AZ 85248

<http://www.willieflight.org>

### FLIGHT CAPTAIN’S UPDATE

*1 December 2020*

Fellow Willie Flight members, I’m sure you are wondering about the status of our flight. As your Vice Flight Captain, I will be filling in as interim Flight Captain until we can install Ron Perkins as our 2021 Flight Captain. Before his final flight, Frank had asked me to fill in as Vice Flight Captain after the passing of Don Harvel. Just recently we also suffered the loss of Royce Brownfield who was for many years the keeper of member biographies, the backbone of Willie Flight history. We have suffered the devastating loss of these three prominent members of our flight whom we all grieve. I’m here to tell you that we are still fully functional and eagerly await the next meeting when we can come together again. We need to toast our past and continue to relive the stories of our exploits in the air as embellished as they might be. We are a “Fraternal Order” organized with traits of chivalry born out of love of country and flying. The monthly meetings are very special to so many of us to get together as friends who are tied together by the feeling of what it is to slip the surly bonds of earth. We will miss our fallen comrades and their service to Willie Flight, but we will carry on the tradition of what it is to be a Daedalian.

The COVID-19 virus has definitely impacted our getting together. We have pushed our staff meeting until, hopefully, January. We’ll tentatively have a Flight meeting in March. Obviously, nothing is in concrete. A lot depends on the virus, vaccine availability, and if you feel safe taking it. As the older generation, the virus attacks us more severely. We want our members to feel safe at our first Flight meeting and that is our first priority. Periodically, Pat and I will keep you updated to let you know what is happening with the flight.

At this point, I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and hope for a Happy New Year. Let’s look forward to getting together at regular meetings and friendship.

V.V.  
Art Stark  
Interim Flight Captain  
Willie Flight 82

***Historical Question:*** *Who commanded the first bombing mission for the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force in Europe in 1942?*  
*Clue: He also flew a bombing mission in the Pacific.*