



# LIFELINE PILOTS

the shortest distance between home and hope

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## Celebrating 35 Years of LifeLine Pilots!



LLP Founder and Pilot - Wanda Whitsitt

This coming Saturday, March 19, will be a very special time for Lifeline Pilots!

It's a time to celebrate the pilots, patients, medical centers & hospitals, and financial sponsors who have been part of more than 8,000 missions over the past 35 years.

Back then LLP's Wanda Whitsitt was a wife and mom in Champaign, IL whose fourth child was leaving home. Her husband, Don, had always wanted to learn to fly, so he and Wanda signed up for lessons.

"It was 40% math, 40% science, and 20% panic," recalls Wanda. But she rose to the challenge, loved the adrenalin rush and did indeed achieve her instrument rating & commercial pilot license.

"It occurred to me that many people need to travel for medical treatment or diagnosis & have no way to get there. I put an article in an Illinois Aviation newsletter inviting anyone interested in starting a new project to meet and discuss it. Forty pilots responded, and LifeLine Pilots was formed."

This free air service would make it possible for people to receive no-cost emergency medical transportation for organ transplants & other medical assistance for patients in need.

Additionally, LifeLine Pilots flies hundreds of humanitarian missions. When the Twin Towers were hit in New York, all but military aircraft were grounded. Yet, LifeLine Pilots was permitted to fly skin tissue for the Red Cross. Other emergency relief missions flown include transporting supplies & personnel in disasters such as Hurricane Sandy, 2012, and the 2013 floods along Colorado's Front Range.

It's 35 years of making a life-saving difference! Many thanks to all who have been & continue to be a part of LLP!

## A legacy of service



Lifeline Pilots today--

Active Pilots: approx. 450  
Total Mission Legs Completed: 8,388  
Total Nautical Miles Flown: 5,031,296  
States Served (16): IL, IN, IA, MO, MN, MI, WI, OH, KY, TN, AZ, NE, ND, SD, KS, CO

Some (not all) of the medical centers utilized by our passengers:  
St Jude, Memphis  
Mayo Clinic  
Children's St Louis  
Children's Colorado  
Children's Cincinnati  
Children's Philadelphia  
The James, Comprehensive Cancer Center, Ohio State University  
University of Michigan Health Center  
Cancer Treatment Center, Zion  
...and many more too numerous to list.

## Quick Links



LifeLine Pilots