

Thomas K. Best

A native Daytonian, born September 11, 1941, a war baby. Attended Dayton public schools and graduated from Belmont High School in 1959. A lifetime aviation observer and fan, living near an airport and meeting many pilots and staff. Started training to earn a pilot license but entered the U.S. Army and was sent to Viet Nam and was assigned to be captain of a patrol boat, finishing 1967 and 1968 with rank of Sargent.

Returning to Dayton, used the GI Bill to earn a degree in business and accounting and worked as an accountant for five years. Still wanting to fly I completed all requirements for the highest rank, ATP, airline transport pilot. I have flown for several corporate departments and 2 airlines. I have flown to 16 countries and 49 states and have over 12,000 flight hours.

I started training for Masonry in 2008 and was raised a Master Mason in 2009. Since, I have enjoyed membership in Scottish Rite, York Rite and a year later I joined Antioch Shrine. I especially have enjoyed my time raising awareness of the need for health care for young children.

I am a long time member of my church and am active in several tasks there. I am an ordained Deacon, an usher and a member of several teams. I am father of 2, a son and a daughter.