



David Brinkerhoff Loveland

February 22, 1930 - February 14, 2022

Major David Brinkerhoff Loveland passed away peacefully with family by his side on February 14th, 2022. He was just one week shy of his 92nd birthday.

He was born February 22nd, 1930 to Roelif Loveland and Mildred Graham Loveland in Cleveland, Ohio.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Barbara Loveland and his brother Peter Loveland.

Dave graduated from Cleveland Heights High School in 1948. He attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio on a football scholarship. It was there he learned many life lessons from his beloved coach Woody Hayes. Coach Hayes, he used to say, taught me how to get through life's inevitable roadblocks.

His football career dashed by injury, he became an officer and pilot in the United States Air Force. Flight Duty began in March of 1953 which on occasion, brought him to Traverse City. It was here that he met Barbara "Bobbie" Sherberneau, a stewardess at Capitol Airlines. Their date nights were unique, meeting around the globe as their schedules would allow. They married in May of 1957 and had three daughters.

After 21 years in the Air Force, Major Loveland and Barbara retired to Traverse City in 1973. He began his next chapter at Northwestern Michigan College as Chief Flight Instructor. Having flown many aircraft, including rescue helicopters, his aviation experience proved invaluable to the brand-new flight school. It wasn't just his skill in the cockpit that students appreciated... It was his colorful storytelling in ground school that kept hopeful pilots on the edge of their seats. He retired from NMC in 1994. He touched many lives during his tenure and became a legend in Northern Michigan Aviation.

One of his family's most heartfelt moments was when he was invited to Northwestern Michigan College's "50 Years in Aviation" celebration. His former students were now successful pilots, flying across continents in huge modern aircraft. He was moved beyond

words as they lined up to get their picture taken with their former mentor.

Dave was a proud member of Elks Lodge #323 in Traverse City for 50 years. He also enjoyed being a parade director with the National Cherry Festival and met new friends while serving in the Coast Guard Auxiliary. His family at Faith Reformed Church brought him great happiness during his later years, especially after his wife Barbara passed away in January of 2018. His church family brought him comfort, support and friendship that he was truly grateful for.

Living on West Grand Traverse Bay allowed him to do the things he loved like flying his yellow J-3 Cub seaplane, fishing for the elusive “big one” and going on many, many pontoon rides with friends and family.

Dad was a wonderful father and a great role model, and we miss him very much. Major David B. Loveland is survived by his daughters Cynthia Fredrickson (James) of Suttons Bay, Linda Cobb (Steven) of Traverse City and Nancy Loveland of Traverse City. He was also blessed with six loving grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A private memorial will be held June 7th. Please consider a donation to “Veterans in Crisis” at veteransincrisis.org in his memory.

Please feel free to share your thoughts and memories with David’s family at his tribute page at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com.

The family is being cared for by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Tribute Wall

BB

“ *Major Loveland was my instructor and presided over my numerous check rides as I earned my certificates. I'll always remember his positive, can-do spirit, aviation expertise, and ability to explain issues in different ways to make certain they were understood and followed. ALWAYS the professional, his teaching style was welcomed by all. Everyone wanted Mr. Loveland as their instructor and mentor.*

I, like many others, am fortunate to have experienced learning to fly with the best instructor ever to teach at NMC. Godspeed Major Loveland!

*Bruce Byl
Class of 1979*

Bruce Byl - June 02 at 08:22 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home & Cremation Services - May 24 at 12:34 PM

RW

“ *Dave's voice in my ear during training continued to guide my 25 year airline career.
He was an inspiration to me and all who knew him. Clear skies and tailwinds,
Dave!*

Ren Wright - March 01 at 10:29 AM

RL

“ *Dear Loveland Daughters and Family! I'm sorry to hear of Uncle Daves death. He was always a cool uncle....a little less tightly wound than his brother, I think. Love to all! -Roelif*

Roelif Loveland - February 25 at 10:52 AM

JV

“ I, along with legions of pilots that trained under this great man, will never forget him. He was generous with his time, knowledge, and expertise. Above all else, Major Loveland was a wonderful human being that exuded goodness throughout his journey. Sympathy to his family. It was an honor to know him.

Joseph Verschaeve - February 25 at 10:51 AM

RB

“ I had the privilege of working with Major David Loveland at Northwestern Michigan College's Aviation Division. Dave was our Chief Flight Instructor and my wingman! He helped guide the Aviation Division in laying the foundation to become the success it has today. Dave was exactly who we needed in that position. I have many fond memories of him teaching, guiding and helping our students fulfill their dream of becoming an excellent pilot! It is an honor to have been a part of Dave Lovlands life & knowing that some say we will fly together again.

Robert Buttleman - former Director of Aviation

Robert Buttleman - February 25 at 10:51 AM

DL

“ I had the honor of training with Dave as an impressionable 20 something year old kid many years ago and as I reflect on my 45 plus year aviation career, I can say without question that Dave played a major role in molding me into the person I am today.

He was the perfect mix of professional instructor, personal mentor and all around great guy.

His aviation credentials put him on a pedestal for all of us to admire and yet his humility probably stood out as his greatest attribute (with his infectious sense of humor a very close second)

Those of us that trained with him will be forever indebted and will certainly never forget the camaraderie we shared with him.

Thanks Dave

David Leach

David Leach - February 25 at 10:50 AM

BW

“ I had the pleasure of having Major Dave Loveland as an instructor. How many people can say they received their instruction from a Major. They say you are a direct reflection of your instructor. He taught us well, take an hour of any day or night and there will be one of his students out there.

Because of Dave I'm a better person. He didn't just mold you in the cockpit he molded your life.

David B. Loveland I will never forget you

Godspeed to you and Bless your family.

Bill White

Bill White - February 25 at 10:50 AM

“ I, as many pilots around the world, we became knowledgeable and safe aviators under Dave's tutelage. After gaining our ratings some of us had the honor to become instructors at NMC with Dave mentoring us along the way. His leadership guided us to teach students the right way. His door was always open for us to answer our questions with a smile. I will never forget my time with him.

Blue Skys and Endless Tailwinds Dave

Keith Albro

Flyer's Prayer

*When this life I'm in is done,
And at the gates I stand,
My hope is that I answer all
His questions on command.*

*I doubt He'll ask me of my fame,
Or all the things I knew, Instead,
He'll ask of rainbows sent
On rainy days I flew.*

*The hours logged, the status reached,
The ratings will not matter.
He'll ask me if I saw the rays
And how He made them scatter.*

*Or what about the droplets clear,
I spread across your screen?
And did you see the twinkling eyes.
If student pilots keen?*

*The way your heart jumped in your chest,
That special solo day-
Did you take time to thank the one
Who fell along the way?*

*Remember how the runway lights
Looked one night long ago
When you were lost and found your way,
And how-you still dont know?*

*How fast, how far, how much, how high?
He'll ask me not these things
But did I take the time to watch*

The Moonbeams wash my wings?

*And did you see the patchwork fields
And mountains I did mould;
The mirrored lakes and velvet hills,
Of these did I behold?*

*The wind he flung along my wings,
On final almost stalled.
And did I know it was His name,
That I so fearfully called?*

*And when the goals are reached at last,
When all the flyings done,
I'll answer Him with no regret-
Indeed, I had some fun.*

*So when these things are asked of me,
And I can reach no higher,
My prayer this day - His hand extends
To welcome home a Flyer.*

— Patrick J. Phillips

Keith Albro - February 25 at 10:49 AM

FJ

“ Had the pleasure of knowing Dave during most of my training at NMC aviation. He was a great mentor to all of us. I have certainly learned a great deal from him. I did most of my stage checks with him from student pilot to commercial ratings. He would always say " Ready to go have some fun!" before we went and flew. Which always help to stave off the stress of the flight check. Thank you for your tremendous contributions in aviation.

I will always remember you Dave. God Bless you.

Frank Jabour - February 25 at 10:48 AM

AF

“ Ashley Fredrickson is following this tribute.

Ashley Fredrickson - February 24 at 02:38 PM