

My name is Godfrey D. Watson, Airplane Pilot, Flight Instructor, and Ground Instructor.

I hold a Commercial Pilot Certificate Airplane Single Engine and Multiengine Land and Sea; Instrument Airplane; and Glider. I have Advanced and Instrument Ground Instructor Certificates (AGI, IGI), Flight Instructor Certificate (CFII, MEI, IA), and a SECOND CLASS Medical Certificate. My Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics (Computer Science) is from Oregon State University.

I work as a software engineer; I fly as a hobby. I have always enjoyed software engineering work, and from my very first airplane flight, I have always enjoyed flying. I teach airplane flying at several San Francisco Bay Area locations.

I have about 1200 hours of day and night flying in USA, more than 300 hours in tailwheel aircraft. I have some experience in Hawaii, Bahamas, Costa Rica, Canada, and Mexico. I have flown many aircraft, the largest a Twin Beech E18S (dual).

My small plane flying experience began when I was 21. A friend, a newly certified pilot building his airplane hours, took me on one of his cross-country trips from Portland, Oregon to Bellingham, Washington in a Cessna 172. My next time in a small plane was several years later as a Research Assistant at Oregon State University, Geophysical Oceanography. There, I was asked to serve as photography for an off-shore experiment; my co-worker flew the Mooney aircraft over the ocean and I operated the camera.

In 1981, after moving to California, I decided to learn to fly as a way to save time on driving trips to Newport, Oregon, a place that I occasionally visited. I started once a week instruction in Glider on 23-Nov-1980 and earned Student Pilot Glider certificate on 24-Jun-1981. My first solo flight was in Glider on 22-Jul-1981.

My first time at controls in airplane was 24-Oct-1981. After a couple of eight month lapses in training I decided to proceed consistently with this training. Two months of consistent, twice-a-week, flying led to a first airplane solo. With 40 landings and 26 hours of flight, I earned Student Pilot Airplane certificate on 2-Jun-1983 for first solo in Airplane on 21-Jun-1983 at Reid Hillview Airport in San Jose, California. The aircraft was a Taylorcraft L2, a small hand prop tailwheel airplane; my instructor was Amelia Reid.

Over the years I continued to enjoy the convenience of personal flying—throughout California, Oregon, Idaho, Washington, Arizona, Canada, and Mexico. I received Commercial Pilot Certificate 25-Mar-1986 (Glider) and 6-May-1989 (Airplane). In April and May of 2005 I added the instrument, multi-engine, and seaplane ratings. I became a Ground Instructor at end of 2006 and have tutored students for and assisted with instruction in College of San Mateo (CSM) AERO 100 class, a class taught many years by Dale Kuhns. On 29-Jul-2008 I became a Certified Flight Instructor.

I enjoy my hobbies casually and intermittently, with my wife, family, and friends. I enjoy living in El Granada, California by the ocean and near an airport; I enjoy many activities, mostly active and those related to water. I walk, bike, jog, windsurf, scuba dive, ballroom dance, and I like adventure. I used to ride a BMW motorcycle; I used to play Trombone; and I used to photograph with my camera and work in the darkroom. Of course, I still enjoy airplane flying and I enjoy teaching.

I am very happy that I decided to take that first flying lesson. Flying continues to bring joy, adventure, convenience, growth, and opportunity into my life.



Twinbeech D18S on EDO/Bristol 7850 Floats. Two Pratt & Whitney Military R-985 450 hp 9 cylinder radial engines. Seating for pilots and 8 passengers.