



UNFORGETTABLE REUNION

by Rebecca

What would you do if you just learned your father was diagnosed with dementia and you wanted to go visit him? What if that journey to go visit him was over 700 miles away and traveling via the airlines was not possible due to being immunocompromised from medication you were taking? Where could you turn?

One of the wonderful things we get to do in our missionary career is what we call *angelwing flights*; special non, medical-emergency, or special reason flights. We became aware of a particular flight need of a son to a World War II veteran. The son, David, desired to see his father before his father's dementia got worse.

As Doug Pagliolo II, AWA's new lead flight instructor and former Marine serviceman, described, the old WWII veteran was beginning to lose memory fast so the visit with his son was even more precious to both father and son. David had not seen his father in two years due to travel restrictions and medical reasons. Doug was deeply honored to have been a part of this flight as he too has served to help defend our country and its people.

Kyle went along for the trip as well for he acted as co-pilot and flight engineer. With Doug being an instructor, it provided precious opportunity for, as Kyle describes it, "learning to do the very thing that will help me serve others in the future, *on my own*, by getting my pilot's license." Being a part of the process that helps facilitate tender, irreplaceable, and



precious moments of an aging and/or compromised family member is something AWA seeks to aid in. We are here to be a blessing to all mankind.

When Doug and Kyle arrived in South Carolina to pick up their passenger, they met David, his mother and veteran father, and enjoyed a nice conversation with the family. The father was very thankful to everyone for helping him and his son spend some time together, and that AWA would be able to fly his son home, Doug mentioned. David and his mother were extremely thankful for the opportunity that had been given their family to come together and enjoy the time they had.

After getting all paperwork done for the flight, everyone said goodbye. Doug and Kyle had a special prayer with the family, the tender act quite moving to David's father. There is truly no greater honor to serve in this capacity at AWA for in doing so, it is a participation in the Great Commission.

Doug and Kyle flew David back home to Ann Arbor, Michigan and along the way, one of the radios suddenly stopped working. Praise God, though, for an in-flight engineer! Kyle was able to fix the problem while Doug flew. Most aircraft have a backup radio for good reason and this scenario is exactly why.

The angelwing flight came to rest in Ann Arbor, Michigan where there was a light dusting of snow on the ground! When David got off the plane, Kyle and Doug got to meet his friend who Doug recalls was deeply touched by what AWA had done to help

David. She was so thankful for it and thought AWA's mission was truly wonderful in helping people during their time of need.

Four hours later, Doug and Kyle arrived safely back in North Carolina after a helpful tailwind carried them home. These angelwing flights breathe hope back into the lives of those in the world God desires to lift out of despair. Only through the grace of Jesus' love and provision, and your support, can we accomplish this. It is an honor to serve.

Until Next Time,

Your AWA Maintenance Project Families

Your AWA Mission Families stationed at AWA Headquarters in Smithfield, NC:



**Kyle, Rebecca,
and Hadahsa
Stevenson**



Steven Leger