



For Immediate Release

"D-Day Doll" a WWII Veteran of Normandy, Market Garden, and Bastogne to Fly in Marana

Special Event Honoring Tucson Area Kids, Veterans and a Historic Aircraft

TUCSON, Arizona — March 8, 2018 —

WHO: [Wright Flight Inc.](#) , and [Inland Empire Wing Commemorative Air Force](#)

WHAT: A special event brings to life World War II aviation history for Wright Flight program graduates. The organizations partnered to bring the "D-Day Doll" to a typical Wright Flight graduation "FLY DAY" for the purpose of raising funds for both organizations. The "D-Day Doll" was flown in actual combat on D-Day and carried 28 paratroopers to fight June 6, 1944 at night in Normandy, France. As part of the event, the famous "D-Day Doll" (Douglas DC-3/C-53D "Skytrooper" plane) will be on site for tours and will be making a special flight at noon. Wright Flight, Inc program 5th grade graduates will be flying from 8am to roughly noon.

Wright Flight and the Inland Empire Wing of the Commemorative Air Force are offering the public a chance to claim some of the seats on this historic flight. A limited number of seats are being made available for a minimum \$500 donation on a first come, first served basis. Please contact the Wright Flight office at [520-294-0404](tel:520-294-0404) to request a seat on the flight prior to 5 p.m. on Friday March 16.

Wright Flight will also be hosting "Fly Day" for Tully Elementary School and Acacia Elementary School students who have recently completed the 10-week Wright Flight History program together with their teachers. The program includes extensive information about World War II and other aviation history. The students participating have achieved personal goals they set for themselves at the beginning of the program such as getting better grades, increased self-confidence or good citizenship at school, home and community. The students have earned the right to fly an airplane for a half hour themselves with a Wright Flight volunteer pilot.

WHERE: At Marana Regional Airport 11700 W. Avra Valley Road, Marana, Arizona 85653

WHEN: Saturday, March 17 from 8 am – 3 pm. Special flight of the "D-Day Doll" plane at noon.

WHY: Wright Flight, Inc. is seeking to raise funds for its [special motivational programs](#) for Tucson area elementary and middle school students. In tandem, the Commemorative Air Force is seeking to raise funds for [attendance of "D-Day Doll" to the 75th Anniversary of D-Day in Normandy, France in June 2019.](#)

The following is a schedule of planned events for the day:

8 a.m. – 12 noon: Wright Flight History program graduates will be flying airplanes with Wright Flight volunteer pilots.

9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.: “D-Day Doll” tours

12 noon: “D-Day Doll” special flight(s)

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: “D-Day Doll” tours

About Wright Flight, Inc.

Wright Flight, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that offers a unique program developed by Lt. Colonel Robin Stoddard, a retired U.S. Air Force fighter pilot in 1986. Wright Flight helps children gain essential life skills for overcoming adversity and achieving goals. The outcomes for program graduates include better grades, better attitude at school, increased self-confidence and a success mentality.

About Inland Empire Wing, of the Commemorative Air Force (IEW)

Inland Empire Wing is a wing of the "Commemorative Air Force" (CAF). The IEW is a purely volunteer-driven organization. The members and volunteers dedicate their efforts to a variety of local projects, such as the maintenance and restoration of WWII aircraft, memorial flights at special events, contribution of museum displays to educate the public, and providing support and a presence at Southern California air shows.

Media preview visits to the “D-Day Doll” and to interview organizers and/or participants are welcome.

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