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Good Morning, this letter will inform the Alumni Association of my background including graduation from Spartan. In 1978 I started my flight training at Spartan School of Aeronautics having no flight experience at all. That was the year that Spartan celebrated it's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In 1981 I completed my flight training which consisted of private, commercial, instrument, CFI, CFII, and multi engine ratings. I was then fortunate enough to be hired as a Spartan Flight instructor.

In 1983 I was employed by Sundorph Aviation, in Cleveland Ohio as a charter copilot on a Piper Navajo. A few months later I was up graded to captain flying Piper Aztecs.

In 1984 I began flying first officer on Metroliners for Scheduled Skyways, a commuter airline in Arkansas. I was soon upgraded to captain in early 1985.

In 1986 I was hired by Republic Airlines where I started as a DC-9 first officer. We were soon merged with Northwest Airlines Inc. and I continue with this airline today. At Northwest I have flown first officer on the DC-9, Convair 580, second officer on the Boeing 727, and for the last 7 years I have enjoyed being a captain on the DC-9.

I have always been proud of my association with Spartan School of Aeronautics. When my son David wanted to follow me in the same career, I knew there was no other place for him to get his education and flight ratings than this fine school. My son David started his training with Spartan in August 2001. We hope to see him as an instructor at Spartan when he finishes his training. We look forward to attending Spartan's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary along with David. It has been a great career and Spartan School of Aeronautics was an integral part of my career.

Sincerely,  
Captain David R. Hixson

