



In Memory of Captain Joseph Gordon Fickling

July 14, 1915–November 3, 2000

Joe (“Fick”) Fickling learned to fly in Winston-Salem, NC, and served in the Air Force during World War II. He flew 25 missions in B-24s over the Hump, delivering gasoline to China. He retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel.

Joe was one of the original Piedmont captains hired in 1948. He was based in Norfolk, VA, for most of his airline career, and then transferred to Atlanta, GA, where he was based when he retired in 1975. He was active in ALPA, serving on the Piedmont Negotiating Committee several times. As MEC chairman, he worked diligently on the retirement program. He was ALPA International Secretary-Treasurer from 1964–1968.

Joe was not only an excellent airman, but also a wonderful friend. He was universally respected by everyone at Piedmont for his reserved but friendly attitude.

He and his wife, Penny, lived in Atlanta and Virginia Beach, VA. He is survived by one stepdaughter, Katherine, and one adopted daughter, Melody. He was a member of Naomi #87 Masonic Lodge in Norfolk, VA, and of the Piedmont Silver Eagles.

Joe was one of my best friends. I flew copilot with him a lot in the early DC-3 days. Although we were both flying captain on the B-737 when he retired, I requested and received permission from the Company to fly as his copilot on his last trip. For 52 years, he was always there for me and my family. We will always cherish his memory and the good times we were able to spend with him.

*Tory W. Vaughan, Jr.
Retired*