

WAI ANNOUNCES THE PAT LUEBKE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Donations will be used to fund members' personal development in aviation



November 26, 2019 – Patricia Luebke, WAI 1954 and a regular and longtime contributor to *Aviation for Women* and *Aviation for Girls* magazines, passed away on November 22, 2019, after a brief illness. Pat was a proud member of Women in Aviation International and was the creative force behind many of the organization's key programs and events including Take Your Daughter to Conference, which became Girls in Aviation Day; the annual female group photo at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh; a WAI time capsule for our 25-year anniversary; the conference *Daily* newsletters, the Annual Fund Pioneer Hall of Fame tote bag; and the Honor The WASP event on Memorial Day weekend.

Girls in Aviation Day, sparked by Pat's creativity, has resulted in approximately 56,150 kids being introduced to aviation (to date) with more to come in the years that follow. Girls in Aviation Day events have been held in Australia, Botswana, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, England, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Netherlands, Nigeria, Puerto Rico, Scotland, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, United States, and Zambia. The annual WomenVenture group photo, which is in its 11th year, started with 700 attendees, and has grown into an event that thousands of women look forward to annually, with over 2,000 in the 2019 photo. Her ideas and creativity have impacted thousands in aviation and her legacy will live on in those she continues to inspire.

Her eloquent and creative writing in the WAI publications including her *Personal Development* column were a reader favorite and addressed a wide range of topics including the effects of social media, losing a job, asking for a promotion, and how to save money.

Pat's valuable insights were drawn from her decades of experience as a New York City-based freelance writer, editor, and marketing consultant. Starting her aviation career as *Flying* magazine's advertising assistant, Pat rose through the ranks and became a vice president for the publishing company leading a team of magazine staff with her quick wit and creative inspiration. With a dedicated work ethic and attention to detail, Pat shared her expertise with a variety of clients including Avionics News, Sporty's, AOPA, Lightspeed Aviation, and many others. She was especially proud of her work with WAI dedicated to ensuring the development of future leaders in the field and for encouraging women of all ages and backgrounds to be strong and confident.

To continue Pat's legacy of candid and thorough aviation journalism, Women in Aviation International announces a 2020 scholarship in her honor to encourage WAI members to pursue their own best aviation-related personal development goal. Applications must be received via email to Donna Wallace (dwallace@wai.org) no later than Friday, January 10, 2020, midnight EST. Requirements include: an active WAI membership through March 2020, a WAI official scholarship application form, your resume (no longer than 2 pages) and a 500-word essay explaining how you would use the scholarship to further your own aviation personal development goal. If any of Pat's stories inspired you, please include in your essay. The Pat Luebke Memorial Scholarship will be awarded at the 31st Annual International Women in Aviation Conference, March 5-7, 2020 in Orlando, Florida.

Donate online to the Pat Luebke Memorial Scholarship Fund at www.wai.org/memorial-pat_luebke
Questions? Email Donna Wallace, Scholarship Coordinator, at dwallace@wai.org

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, December 15, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Cradle of Aviation Museum, Charles Lindbergh Blvd., Garden City, NY 11530. In lieu of flowers, donations are welcome to the Pat Luebke Memorial Scholarship Fund. Email Kelly Murphy, kmurphy@wai.org, for details.

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Women in Aviation International is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to providing networking, mentoring and scholarship opportunities for women and men who are striving for challenging and fulfilling careers in the aviation and aerospace industries. For more information, contact WAI at 3647 State Route 503 South, West Alexandria, OH 45381, Phone (937) 839-4647; Fax (937) 839-4645 or through www.wai.org.

Contact: Molly Martin, WAI Outreach Director, 850-508-8769, mmartin@wai.org