

## My Friend Jack Dunn



Visit Jack in Hood River - 2003

most rewarding years of my flying career I have ever had. He once told me “I’m going to teach you to fly with enough confidence that you’ll always feel you can get back down safely”. He did just that, and to this day I always fly with that confidence Jack Dunn instilled in me. Those words meant more to me than he’ll ever know.

I first met Jack Dunn December 13<sup>th</sup>, 1986 for my private pilot check-ride. Jack and I hit it off from the beginning. I was very nervous about my check-ride but Jack immediately made me feel at ease and comfortable. We talked a short while and found out we both may be distant cousins; we weren’t sure but I still like to think so. I passed with ease and I thank Jack for his kindness and inherent human compassion for helping me. Jack was my flight instructor and mentor from that day on and we flew many years together afterwards. Those were the

I could go on and on recalling the many stories of Jack’s WWII flying days but there isn’t enough time in this forum. Jack never boosted or bragged about his fighter days, he just recapped the stories for me. I believe he shot down at least 10 enemy planes and 7 of those at night (my numbers may be off but I don’t think so). I never could get enough of his WWII flying adventures and accounts. And I’m sure he got tired of me bugging him to tell me more, although he never let on so. He knew I craved to hear them and he was always willing to share. His stories taught me valuable life lessons I’ll never forget.

Jack is one of the most incredible people I have ever had the pleasure to know. He is a rare breed of a man who is genuine, honest, and is straight forward and direct with those he meets and interacts with. One of the things I love about Jack is that you always know where he stands and where you stand. The world would be a better place if more were like him. Everyone that knows Jack thinks the same I’m sure.

I can only aspire to be the kind of person Jack Dunn is and I am truly honored to have him as my friend and mentor. He has meant more to me than he’ll ever know. I’m a better person because of Jack Dunn.

With fond admiration,  
Danny Hanie



Solo'd by J.J. Alexander - 1971