

The Aileron

February, 2020

Official Publication of the Aero Club of Southern California



CHESLEY SULLENBERGER

41st Howard Hughes Memorial Award Winner

Captain "Sully" Sullenberger has been dedicated to the pursuit of safety his entire adult life. While he is best known for serving as Captain during what has been called the "Miracle on the Hudson," Sullenberger is a safety expert, speaker, and author. He still flies privately.

Born and raised in Denison, Texas, Sullenberger pursued his childhood love of aviation by learning to fly at age 16, while still in high school, and later at the United States Air Force Academy. At his graduation from the Academy in 1973, he received the Outstanding Cadet in Airmanship Award. In addition to his bachelor's degree in psychology, he also has two master's degrees, one in industrial psychology from Purdue University and one in public administration from the University of Northern Colorado. He also has an honorary Doctorate of Letters from Purdue University.

Sullenberger served as a fighter pilot for the United States Air Force. He advanced to become a flight leader and a training officer, attaining the rank of captain. During his active duty, he was stationed in North America

and Europe. After serving in the Air Force, in February 1980 Sullenberger became an airline pilot with Pacific Southwest Airlines, later acquired by US Airways, until his retirement from commercial flying in March 2010.

Prior to gaining worldwide attention, Sullenberger was an active and ardent safety advocate throughout his four-decade-long career. He was selected to perform accident investigation duties for the United States Air Force, and served as an Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA) representative during a National Transportation Safety Board accident investigation. Additionally, Sullenberger served as a Local Air Safety Chairman for ALPA, and was a member of one of their national technical committees, where he contributed to the creation of a Federal Aviation Administration Advisory Circular. He was also instrumental in developing and implementing the Crew Resource Management course used by US Airways, and he taught the course to hundreds of other airline crewmembers.

Continued on page 3 >

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Sullenberger (from Page 1)

After logging more than 20,000 hours of flight time Sullenberger became internationally renowned on January 15, 2009 when he and his crew safely guided US Airways Flight 1549 to an emergency water landing in New York City's frigid Hudson River. The Airbus A320's two engines had lost thrust following a bird strike. Sullenberger and his crew received international acclaim for their actions that day, including the passage of a Congressional resolution recognizing their bravery. Sullenberger was ranked second in TIME's "Top 100 Most Influential Heroes and Icons of 2009" and was awarded the French Legion of Honour.

Sullenberger is the #1 New York Times best-selling author of *Highest Duty: My Search for What Really Matters* and also wrote *Making a Difference: Stories of Vision and Courage from America's Leaders*. Clint Eastwood directed the major motion picture about Sullenberger's life, titled *SULLY*, based on *Highest Duty*. Tom Hanks starred in the lead role; Aaron Eckhart and Laura Linney co-starred. The film was released to critical acclaim in September 2016 and garnered four Broadcast Film Critics nominations and one Academy Award nomination. *Highest Duty* was republished that year as *SULLY: My Search for What Really Matters*.

Sullenberger is an international lecturer and keynote speaker at educational institutions, corporations and non-profit organizations about the importance of aviation and patient safety, high performance systems improvement, leadership, crisis management, life-long preparation, and living a life of integrity. He presented at the World Economic Forum in Davos in 2011, as well as the Swiss Economic Forum that same year. In collaboration with DuPont Sustainable Solutions, Sullenberger developed and was featured in an award-winning video training program, *Miracle on the Hudson: Prepare for Safety*, which helps employees increase their commitment to safety and transform their organizations' safety culture. From 2009 to 2013, he served as co-chairman of EAA Young Eagles—a program that inspires and educates youth about aviation.

Most recently, Sullenberger has lent his voice to fulfilling what he feels is his latest mission: defending our democracy.



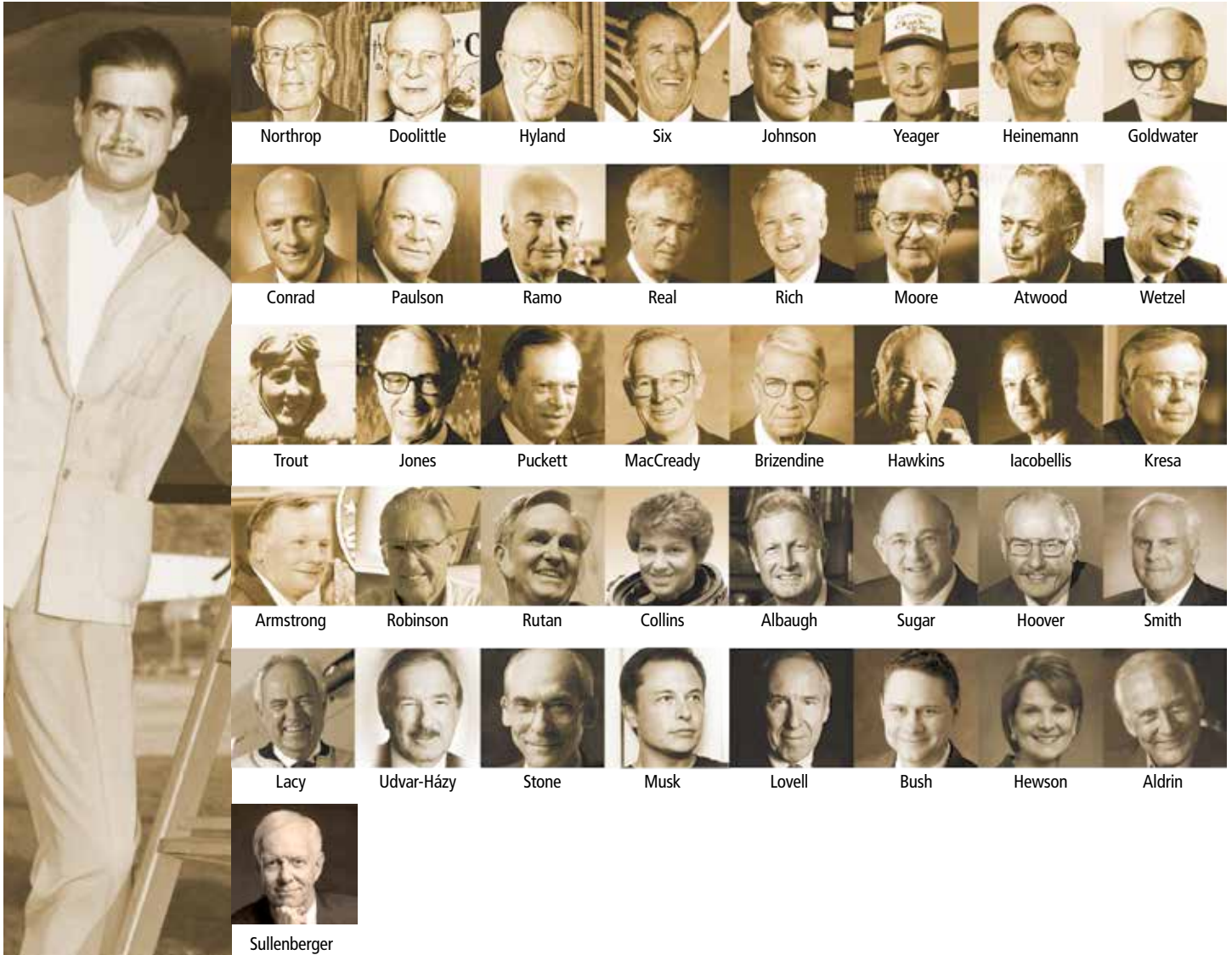
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The Howard Hughes Memorial Award



The Howard Hughes Memorial Award, created in 1978, is presented annually by the Aero Club of Southern California to an aerospace leader whose accomplishments over a long career have contributed significantly to the advancement of aviation or space technology. The Award was a tribute to Hughes by his first cousin William R. Lummis, chairman and CEO of Summa Corporation.

The 41 recipients, who are pictured above, are a veritable “hall of fame” of industry achievers and luminaries.

The permanent trophy, housed in the Flight Path Learning Center & Museum at LAX, is a globe and vehicle sculpture with the names of

recipients engraved on its base. A solid silver medallion, cast from silver from Hughes’ Nevada mines, is presented to each Honoree. It depicts Hughes from the era when he was designing and flying his famed Flying Boat, setting world records, dressed in his familiar brown fedora, open shirt and two-toned sports jacket. The reverse side signifies aspects of Hughes’ varied life—the oil drilling bit, a reel of film, a landing falcon, the state of Nevada, the earth with a circle of stars symbolizing his round-the-world record, the first communications satellite and the Flying Boat as it crested the waves of Long Beach Harbor.

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

6 p.m. Reception in the Florentine Lounge

7 p.m. Adjourn to Main Dining Room

WELCOME

Robert Lyon

Jonathan Club Host

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

David Zabalaoui

Board Member

INTRODUCTION

William Withycombe

President

DINNER

AERO CLUB HISTORY

William Withycombe

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Julie Sims

Scholarship Chair

TRIBUTE

George Butts

Second Vice President

RESPONSE

Captain Sullenberger

AWARD PRESENTATION

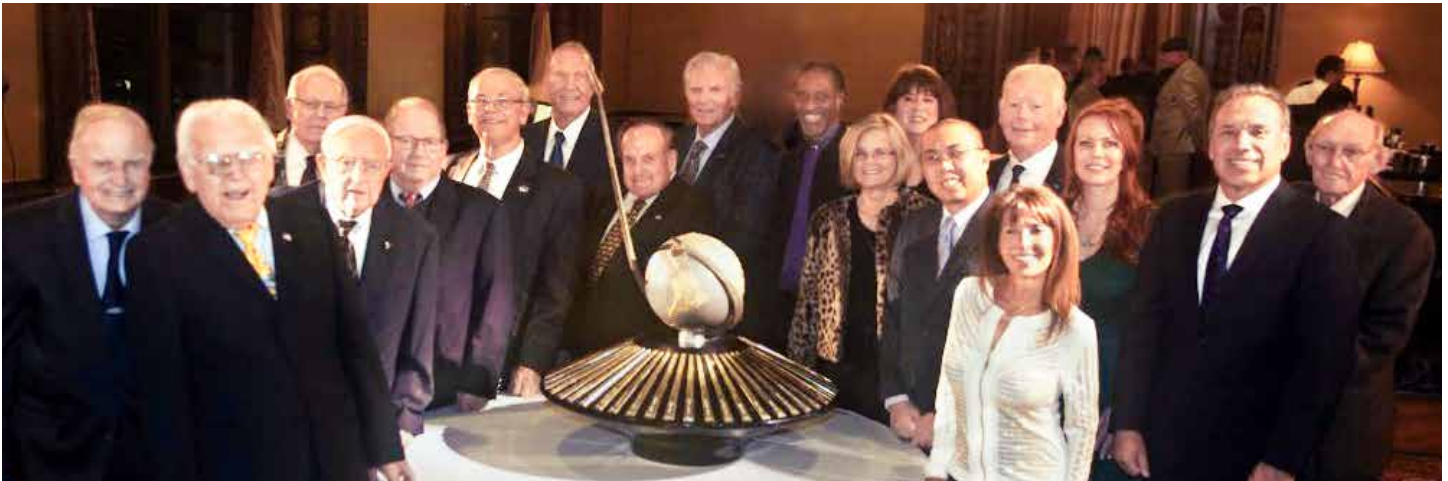
William Withycombe

THANK YOU

Captain 'Sully' Sullenberger,

The Jonathan Club, photographer **Allen Hess,** Bell Events Services' **Michael Bell,**

Studio Printing's **Ed Su,** and Administrator **Bob Smith.**



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Buzz Aldrin, Second Man to Walk on Moon, Awarded 2018 HHMA



Dick Rutan, Guest Speaker, delighting audience with his Voyager adventures.

The 2019 Howard Hughes Memorial Award banquet honoring Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin was a memorable and entertaining evening. The sold out event was held at the Jonathan Club in downtown Los Angeles.

Mike Machat, aviation historian, noted artist and curator of the Museum of Flying in Santa Monica, introduced Dick Rutan and shared fascinating facts about the Apollo mission noting "Dick Rutan and our award recipient, Dr. Aldrin, shared two things in common - they both served in the US Air Force, and both had flown around the world. Rutan's flight took nine days; Aldrin did it in 90 minutes."

World record-breaking aviator Dick Rutan, inspired the audience with his riveting and humorous stories about his historic and exhilarating Voyager flight. Voyager flew the first-ever, non-stop, unrefueled flight around the world in December 1986. President Ronald Reagan awarded Mr. Rutan the Presidential Citizen's Medal of Honor four days after the historic Voyager flight.

Tim Russ, actor, director, musician, and passionate astronomer, best known for portraying Lieutenant Commander Tuvok on Star Trek: Voyager, shared

entertaining comments and graciously accepted the Howard Hughes Memorial Award Silver Medallion on behalf of Dr. Aldrin.

Aero Club President Bill Withycombe noted the evening was a historic first with Voyager crew members from the 20th and 24th centuries sharing the same stage.



Julie Sims and Ramona Cox, Award Presenters with Tim Russ holding the Howard Hughes Memorial Award silver medallion.



Mike Machat, aviation historian, artist and Museum of Flying curator, introducing Dick Rutan.



Bob Lyon, Aero Club Legal Counsel, **Bill Withycombe**, Aero Club President, **Dick Rutan**, Guest Speaker, **Tim Russ**, HHMA Acceptor standing with the Howard Hughes Memorial Award.

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2019 Howard Hughes Memorial Award Winner



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



For more than 110 years, The Aero Club of Southern California has served as supporter and advocate for the aviation and aerospace industries as they evolved over the decades. The United States is a global leader in both industries, which benefits our country's strategic position, boosts the overall economy, and provides thousands of jobs for our workers. An increasingly-critical factor over these decades has been a focus on aviation safety. The Aero Club and our members are aware of the need to ensure continued flight safety, and to hold the industry to the highest standard. And In fact, that safety standard was one factor which influenced our selection of the recipient for the 2019 Howard Hughes Memorial Award.

Captain Chesley B. "Sully" Sullenberger, III, was selected as this year's Howard Hughes Memorial Award honoree for a number of reasons, including his ongoing advocacy for aviation safety. Over a four-decade career, his experience includes pilot's license at 16, US Air Force Academy graduate, fighter pilot, commercial airline pilot, flight instructor, accident investigator, author, and speaker on aviation safety.

While he is best known for the January 2009 "Miracle landing on the Hudson", when he and his crew safely guided their damaged US Airways Flight 1549 to a forced water landing in the Hudson River, Captain Sullenberger is also recognized as a long-time spokesman for aviation education, training and safety. His involvement ranges from having served as a co-chairman of the Experimental Aircraft Association's "Young Eagle Program", which introduces young people to their first flight, to providing Congressional testimony on the subject of aviation safety. These are among the reasons The Aero Club believes Captain Sullenberger is most deserving of the Howard Hughes Memorial Award and is honored to recognize him.

To update you on our Club, I'm pleased to report the all-volunteer, nonprofit Aero Club Board of Directors is actively engaged in efforts to improve your membership experience. Two primary

areas of focus are additional member events to include tours of aviation and aerospace activities in the Southland, and further expanding our ongoing Student Scholarship Awards Program. In November, we awarded seven scholarships totaling \$30,000 to current college and high school students who are committed to studying Aviation and Aerospace.

We actively supported a record-setting flight by Robert DeLaurentis and his "Citizen of The World Pole to Pole Flight" with a grant of \$5,000. The role of American aviators in the heroic battles of WW1 is the subject of the documentary, "Lafayette Escadrille", which we supported with a \$5,000 Grant; the film was shown at Oshkosh during the EAA Fly-in last summer. Our contributions to local aviation-related non-profits include \$1,000 grants to Flight Path Museum and Learning Center and the American Heroes Air Show.

Our expanding membership includes several other non-profits as well, and we are pleased to announce Northrop Grumman Corporation is a new corporate sponsor for 2020.

Thanks to the efforts of the Aero Club Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, The Aero Club is financially solid and able to support these important programs into the future. We appreciate the support of all of our members and we continue to strive to enhance your Membership experience in 2020 and the years to come. If you are reading this and are not a current member, please consider becoming a member and joining us in our ongoing support of Aviation and Aerospace.

Best Regards,

Bill Withycombe
President

ASCS Awards \$30,000 in STEM Scholarships to Seven Accomplished Recipients

Over the past 38 years, \$444,000+ in scholarships awarded to 183 students.



L to R: William Withycombe, Aero Club President, Aero Club Scholarship recipients Anastasia Popoff, Ara Mahseredjian, Sarah Saltikov, William Dull, Nicholas Papp and Aero Club Director of Scholarship Programs Julie Sims.

Aero Club's Annual Meeting and Scholarship Banquet was held at Flight Path Museum & Learning Center on November 13, 2019.

In 2019, Aero Club Scholarship Program Director Julie Sims and the Scholarship Program Committee awarded \$30,000 to seven students selected for their academic achievements and aero/astro-related activities.

\$2500 High School Scholarship Recipients

Calvin Paras - Marsha Toy scholarship.

Calvin is a high school sophomore enrolled in AP Physics and Chemistry. Calvin is passionate about math, science, music and community service. He is a straight A student.

Anastasia Popoff - Marsha Toy Scholarship

Anastasia is a Civil Air Patrol cadet who completed several modules of Private Pilot Training ground school and attended Air Academy summer camp in Oshkosh.

\$5000 College Scholarship Recipients

William Dull - William Schoneberger Scholarship

William is an University of Southern California fourth year student in the Progressive Degree program where he will earn Bachelor's and

Master's degrees in Astronautical Engineering within five years. He interned three summers at Lockheed Martin and plans to pursue a spacecraft design and testing career.

Ara Mahseredjian - Nissen Davis Scholarship

Ara is a University of Southern California aerospace engineering student. Ara interned at Boeing's Competitive Analysis and Product Evaluation Group in Washington. He is an instrument rated private pilot.

Nicholas Papp - Jack Real Scholarship

Nicholas is a California Polytechnic University, Pomona, third year aerospace engineering student. He interned at the NASA Technology Transfer Office. His goal is work on a project sending humans to Mars.

Robert Peltekov - Marsha Toy Scholarship

Robert is an UC Berkeley freshman in a dual engineering and business program. He competed in the VEX Robotics world competition for the past three years. Robert interned at USC and Boeing.

Sarah Saltikov - John Durant Scholarship Award

Sarah is a California Polytechnic University, Pomona, first year aerospace engineering student. She participated on her school's Undergraduate Missiles, Ballistics, and Rocketry Association.



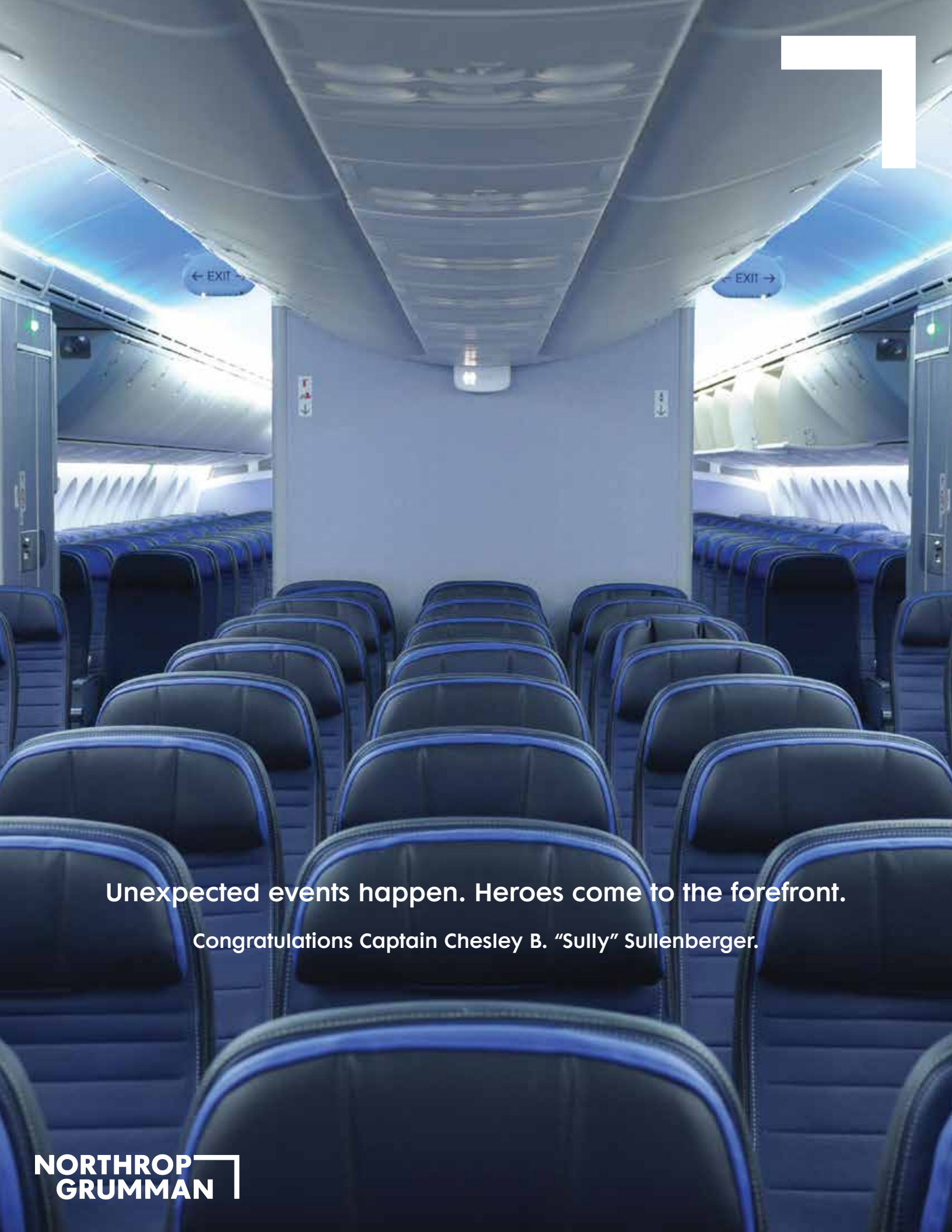
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*The Aero Club is a 501 (3) (c) tax-exempt charity,
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Visit the ACSC website: **www.AeroClubSoCal.org**



Unexpected events happen. Heroes come to the forefront.
Congratulations Captain Chesley B. "Sully" Sullenberger.