



Mike Thompson

Mike Thompson was the son of **Don Thompson**, founder of **Alert Bay Air Services**. He flew Cessnas and Beavers for his father's company, at all the **A.B.A.S.** bases, and transitioned to **Gulf Air**.

Mike came to Canada when he was 2 and grew up in Alert Bay, where he began pumping airplane floats after school when he was nine. As well as aviation, Mike developed a strong interest in music which lasted his whole life, and while he attended the University of Victoria in the mid 60's he was playing in jam sessions and performances with R&B bands on Vancouver Island. To Mike's delight his one son inherited his musical talents, and made it his career.

Mike's flying career lasted 40 years and was rich and varied. He flew jets, high flying turbines, low flying pistons, on wheel, on floats, on skis, VFR and IFR. He travelled all over the world flying in the high Arctic, the Maldives in the Indian Ocean, and up and down the B.C. Coast and Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands).

He also flew on the Medi-Vac team, specializing in pediatric evacuation. He was happiest flying a Twin Otter on floats and logged many hours on that plane. He never damaged an aircraft in all his years of flying.

Like his father, Mike was a gifted teacher and enjoyed training and mentoring young pilots in perfecting their skills.

Mike predeceased his father by 7 years when he died of cancer aged only 61.

Born: 1947
England

Died: 09 April, 2008
Nanaimo B.C.

Married: wife Tracy
1 son Evan

Pilot

Flying Instructor

ABAS

Gulf Air

