

God's voice thunders in marvelous ways;
He does great things beyond our understanding.

Job 37:5



Grace on Wings

Spring 2019

The Nation's only Charity Air Ambulance

577+ Charity Flights

Showing Christ's Love through Aviation

God-Orchestrated Lunch Date

by Shelli Engle

Mission 574 on January 9, 2019, we flew from Cleveland, Ohio to the small town of Suffolk, Virginia. While on the ground in Cleveland we received an email from Susan asking if she could meet us at the airport in Virginia.

Now, I am sure you are asking, "Who is Susan?"

Well it just so happens that on September 24, 2017, we transported Susan's mom Betty on mission 501 from Knoxville, Tennessee to (you guessed it) that small town of Suffolk, Virginia.

Susan has been a huge follower and supported of Grace on Wings since that time.

I quickly started fishing through my contacts, positive that I had her phone number somewhere. At last!!!... I found it and was able to speak with her before we left Cleveland. I asked her if she could join us for lunch and she said yes.

After we landed and finished our care with Sandy, I called Susan and she had chosen a delicious, Italian restaurant in town to meet for lunch. We had such a lovely reunion. She shared how precious the time was that God allowed her to spend with her mom (Miss Betty went home to the Lord only 4 short months after her flight). Susan went each morning before going to work and then spent her

(continued on page 3)



GRACE ON WINGS FAST FACTS:

As of our 577th mission, Grace On Wings has given \$5,298,790 in charitable assistance and flown 811,646 miles across 47 states in the USA.

First Flight Nov 2007
(The **ONLY** US licensed charity air ambulance)

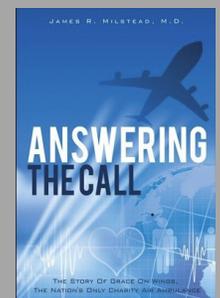
Staffing: Volunteer Professional Nurses, Medics, Respiratory Therapists, Pilots...

Aircraft:

2 - Mitsubishi MU-2's for Air Ambulance
Affectionately named: "Nellie" and "Abe"

Air Ambulance Equipment:

Med-Pac cot system
Zoll X Series Monitor
Impact Ventilator
Alaris IV Pump
ALS Medications





Thank You So Much to our Friends at IREIBA!

Tuesday, October 23, 2018, IREIBA (Indiana Real Estate Independent Brokers Association) held their annual fall fundraiser at the Firefighters Museum and Historical Society. This year, once again, they made Grace on Wings the beneficiary of the donations collected.

Unfortunately, we were away attending AMTC in Phoenix and unable to attend. Cody went in our absence and had a wonderful time at the event. Thank you so much Cody for representing the ministry. We even had one of our volunteers attend as well.

IREIBA is a great group of people. Their organization was created and is dedicated to supporting and promoting efforts of Independent Brokers and those who work with them in their own businesses. They also do many other things outside of this to help others. We have had the opportunity to spend some time with this wonderful group of folks on a few occasions and each time we have enjoyed their company.

In December they invited us to attend their Christmas luncheon downtown Indy. Hal, Mike and myself went; however, this time Cody was unable to go. We were treated to a delicious lunch and had great conversation with many of the members. After lunch we were presented with a check from the donations made from their fundraiser. What a true unexpected blessing this was for us. A huge "thank you" to our friends, Marty, Scott, and the entire gang at IREIBA!



God-Ordained Lunch (continued from page 1)

lunch time with her along with dinner after her work day was complete. Her mom's faith in the Lord remained evident that entire time and Susan is so very thankful those memories the Lord allowed them to create.

In our conversation I asked Susan to remind me of the name of the facility where we had taken her mom. I remember it being absolutely beautiful. It was, in fact, the same facility that Miss Sandy had gone to earlier that day. As we continued our conversation she actually knows Sandy and her husband Michael. She shared what a lovely creative lady Sandy is. She also promised that she will go and visit with them.

After lunch Susan followed us back to the small Suffolk airport so that she could see Nellie. (She had never seen the plane that her mom had flown on, however her brother Gordon had flown with us.) As she walked through the FBO every-one knew her by name.

We took a few pictures together before hugging goodbye. It was such a true blessing to spend time with her and make this connection in this small town.

Thank you, Lord, for orchestrating this great opportunity and thank you, Susan, for following our mission alerts and reports and reaching out to us.

We never know what God has planned for us when we get out of bed each morning. Which is why we have to start by getting up.



In Support of Grace On Wings' commitment to provide Charity Air Ambulance services to medical patients enduring financial hardship, please accept the following contribution:

- **A one time gift of \$_____.**
- **Enroll me as a "Luke 5" Monthly Supporter with \$_____ Per Month.**

Our goal is to get **400 monthly supporters** to pledge **\$25 or more** to cover ground costs to allow us to do more missions. Like the Bible story in **Luke 5:18-26** where the crippled man's friends lowered him down on ropes in front of Jesus.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____

Method of Giving: [Mark an "X" for your preference]

___ Check Enclosed (Payable to "Grace On Wings")

___ Credit Card: ___ One Time Gift - or - ___ Monthly "Luke 5" Member

___ Visa ___ Mastercard ___ Discover Card ___ OTHER (Specify) _____

Card# _____ exp. ___/___

___ Checking withdrawal: ___ One Time Gift - or - ___ Monthly "Luke 5" Member

**Mail to:
Grace On Wings, Inc.
PO Box 42788
Indianapolis, IN 46242**

Tax deductible receipt will be given. We respect your privacy. THANK YOU for supporting this important ministry!

Save the Date
 Saturday, September 14, 2019
 Grace on Wings
 Annual Benefit & Gala Celebration
 Stay tuned for details.



Flag Forms Bond for GOW Supporters

For those who may not know this gorgeous handmade flag was made by Michael Berry and donated for the gala auction. It was such a kind gesture and beautiful piece.

Grace on Wings transported Michael's brother Eric many years ago from Chicago to Indy on Mission 66. His family like many are a huge part of the GOW extended family.

Thank you so much to Roy and Rhonda for sharing this special display that is now in their home in Wisconsin. They make the trip every year to Indiana to attend the annual gala.

So amazing to see how the Lord connects us all. Here is a note and photo from Roy and Rhonda, long-time supporters of Grace on Wings:

Proud to show you folks where we mounted Michael's memorial to Eric's GOW Mission 66. It's located in a prominent corner of our new rec room, honoring Eric and the angels of Grace On Wings.

Merry Christmas and Blessings for the New Year!

Roy & Rhonda

Visit with a Dear Friend

This past October during our trip to Phoenix for the annual AMTC (Air Medical Transport Conference) conference we were able to take some time to visit a dear friend of the Grace on Wings ministry. Sunday was a spectacular day as we drove to Sun City for a surprise visit with Donna Thomas. Donna is now 90 years old and living in a wonderful assisted living facility where she has her own apartment.



She was instrumental in assisting with the start of the ministry and has continued to support us throughout the years. She was consulted by Dr. Jim when he wrote *Answering the Call: The Story of Grace on Wings* and was gracious enough to be our speaker at our very first Grace on Wings Gala.

Donna has a background in ministering, writing, speaking and consulting. She accepted Christ at a young age and in 1947 married her husband Chuck and raised 3 sons.

After a mission trip to Mexico she and Chuck started "Project Partners with Christ". Through this ministry they helped to build several churches, schools and hospitals throughout the world. They also purchased a 40-passenger airplane to provide transportation for such mission trips. (As you can see this had a huge impact on her love for the ministry of GOW.) They encountered many joys and were met with many obstacles as well. Having set foot into 80 countries they delivered Bibles to China along with planting churches. Upon their arrival into Guatemala they were met with bayonets and machine guns. They have spoken with inmates at a Latvian penitentiary and even the Prime Minister of Guyana requested their assistance at one point. After Chuck passed away in 1992 Donna launched "Christian Vision Ministries".

I could go on and on about the amazing things God has allowed Donna the privilege of doing however she will always point back to Him. She and Chuck have allowed Jesus to use them as they answered His call for their lives and have been abundantly blessed.

She was certainly excited to see us. She looked wonderful still possessing that sweet gentle smile.

You can search for books she has written, such as *Climb Another Mountain*, in online book stores such as Amazon:



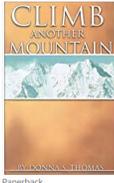
About Donna S. Thomas

Donna S Thomas born in Tulsa, Oklahoma has now traveled the world helping nationals in 80 countries including all of Central South America, and Asia. In 1981 was the first of 20 trips to China. Those times enabled her to help a national leader build

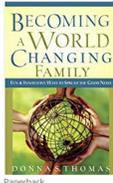
Donna S. Thomas



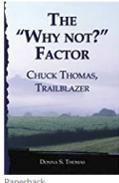
Faces in the Crowd
Donna S. Thomas
Paperback
\$2.98



CLIMB ANOTHER MOUNTAIN
Donna S. Thomas
Paperback
\$17.99



BECOMING A WORLD CHANGING FAMILY
Donna S. Thomas
Paperback
\$5.00



THE "WHY NOT?" FACTOR
Chuck Thomas, Trailblazer
Paperback

Books By Donna S. Thomas