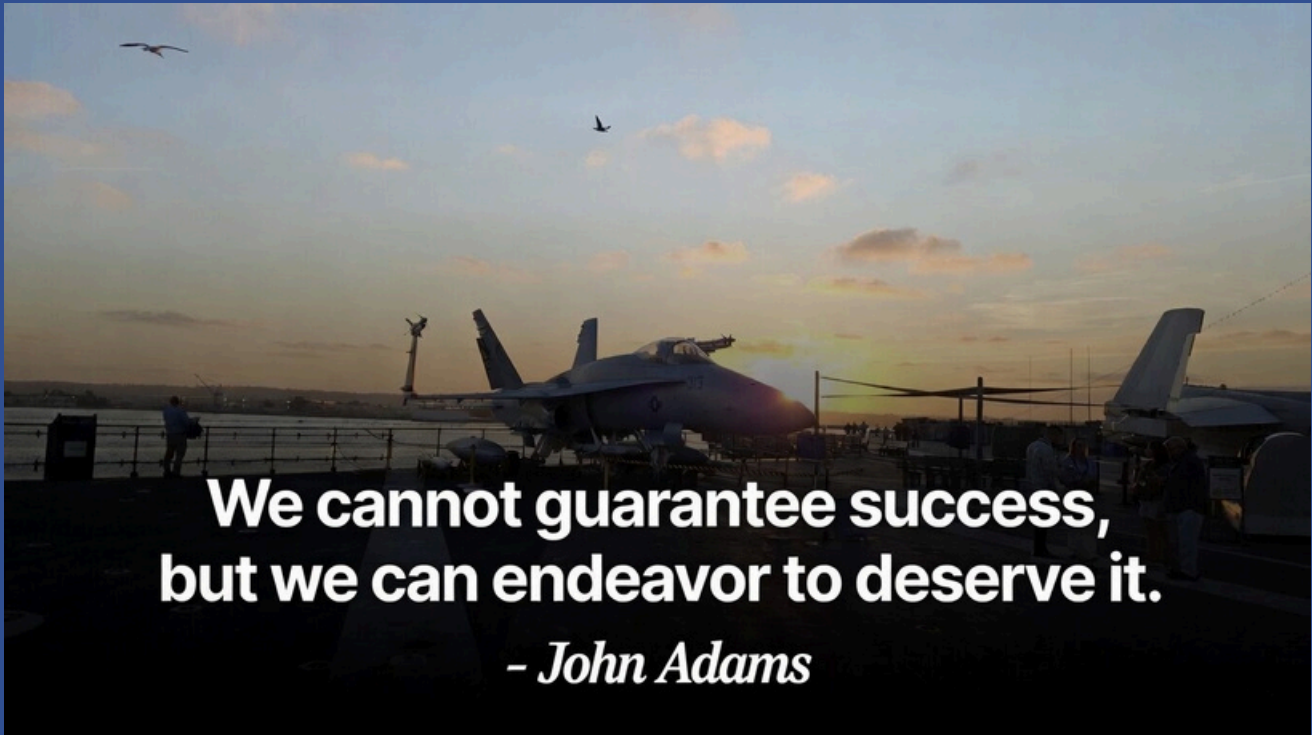




Into The Sky Monthly Newsletter



USS Midway at Sunset - San Diego, CA

April 2026 Stats

Flights: 8
Miles Flown: 2,465
Hours Flown: 14.58
Airports Visited: 4

Welcome to the May 2026 edition of the Newsletter!

Congratulations to axxxxxxr@gmail.com who won the Yeti rambler this month. Check your email, let me know which you want and I'll get it shipped out. Also, xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx2@gmail.com check your email, I'd love to send you a t-shirt.

April made up for a light month of flying in March. I got in some approaches and a hold for instrument currency, we flew to Idaho Falls for our daughter-in-law's graduation from BYU Idaho, and I made a solo trip to St. George for our youngest son's orchestra concert at Utah Tech.

If you don't subscribe yet it's free to sign up, I never send spam or sell your information, and you just might get a t-shirt or Yeti rambler.

April had enough flying that I didn't need to come up with a reason to keep the weekly flying streak alive. I keep getting asked how long I will keep it going, and my response is "Until something gets in the way!" 88 straight weeks of flying are in the books. 🙄

- Week 81 (March 29-April 4) I was short one approach, courtesy of some approaches with a lot of time in IMC but breaking out too soon to log them. So, I met a friend at the airport and he played safety pilot while I shot an approach into KFUL.
- Week 82 (April 5-11) It's been awhile since I flew a multi-leg cross country. We needed to be up in Idaho Falls for our daughter-in-law's graduation from BYU Idaho. Kathy was already in Utah so I made a very bumpy flight from SoCal into South Valley Regional in Salt Lake to get fuel and pick her up. From there we headed out over the Great Salt Lake and up the valleys to Idaho Falls. The Lake was absolutely beautiful, in places looking like Caribbean waters. We had a great time in Idaho and even did a day trip up to the old ghost town of Bannack, MT.
- Week 83 (April 12-18) Brutal headwinds all the way back to California. We made our fuel stop in St. George because winds in Delta (KDTA) and Milford (KMLF) were way past my personal minimums. In St. George it was blowing too, but almost right down the runway. Using runway 19, the winds were from 210° at 31kts gusting 37kts. We were off the ground in no time and almost pattern altitude by the end of the runway. We picked up IFR over the HEC VOR and flew a bumpy approach into KFUL breaking out at about 4,000'.
- Week 84 (April 19-25) The end of the month was coming up and I needed a hold and a couple approaches to still be current May 1st so met another friend and knocked them out on Sunday and then flew solo back to St. George to watch Jarom's orchestra concert.
- Week 85 (April 26-May 2) The tailwinds on Saturday were headwinds on Sunday and it was a slow flight home. Again flew the arrival and approach into Fullerton, this time breaking out at about 2,800' just after crossing the Initial Approach Fix.



Featured Article

Flying in St. Thomas, USVI

I am hooked! Completely and totally hooked on flying while on vacation. It started with a flight in Maui back in 2018. I had a little over 280 total hours at that point in my logbook, with 222 hours in our Mooney. What I didn't have was any time in a Cessna.

I know—you're thinking, "Why am I reading about a flight in Maui if the title of the article is 'Flying in St. Thomas UVI'?" It will all make sense if you don't give up reading.

If you want the whole story about our 2018 Maui flight and 2026 St. Thomas flight, along with tips for flying on vacation, check out the full article on my blog.



[Read more...](#)

Instagram Flight Highlights

[Click here for all the reels](#)



St. George, UT
to
Fullerton, CA
345 miles
2:26 Flight Time
Full flight in 90
Seconds

Landing Runway 19
St. George, UT (KSGU)
Winds from 220
19 Gusting 28

St. George Traffic, Mooney, 1015
Echo, descending through

EMMLN TWO STAR
and IFR approach
to Fullerton, CA
IMC with ATC Comms
April 12, 2026

Always so weird, just flying
into a wall of clouds.

Sub-Par landing at
South Valley Regional
Airport in Salt Lake
(KSVR)
April 9, 2026

South Valley Traffic Mooney
1015 Echo, 5,600
5 miles east of the

South Valley Regional
(Salt Lake City, UT)
to Idaho Falls, ID
211 miles
1:18 Flight Time
Time Lapse of
Full flight in 90
Seconds

Kathy's Corner

Here but not there...

I have been here. I did the laundry, we made cookies, there's leftover cucumber salad, along with the chicken marinating in the fridge. There's gas in the car, your Amex is in the center console, and your keys are on the dresser. I had been here, but I was not there anymore.

In the Mary Poppins revolving door of general aviation life, I needed to be at South Valley Regional Airport to meet Richard and fly to Idaho Falls for our daughter-in-law's graduation. At the same time, our daughter Sharlan and her husband Michael were landing in Salt Lake City from a trip to Portugal. I had been watching our grandkids for the last few days of their trip. As I hopped into an Uber, I looked back and reviewed the flurry of messages with the final details of handing things off.

It struck me: bits and pieces of me were all over the house. The dryer may have still been going, like a warm hug from a distant place, but I was gone. It got me thinking about the last time I felt this way. It was after Richard's mom passed away. His older sister Mara was staying with his dad. She would walk out to the freezer in the garage and come back with food his mom had previously made and frozen for dinner. She called it "Freezer Surprise." When we got there, I recall eating Mary's delicious granola bars out of the freezer. She was still here but not there...

So many in our lives have loved us, fought for us, created paths for us—even moved across an ocean to America. In many ways, I see the branches of our family tree in the leaves that fall from it. I see their love and sacrifice for us in the beautiful reflection we see in our grandchildren's eyes. So grateful for the many who we honor this Memorial Day weekend. We treasure the freedom they have blessed us with.

[Read more.....](#)

