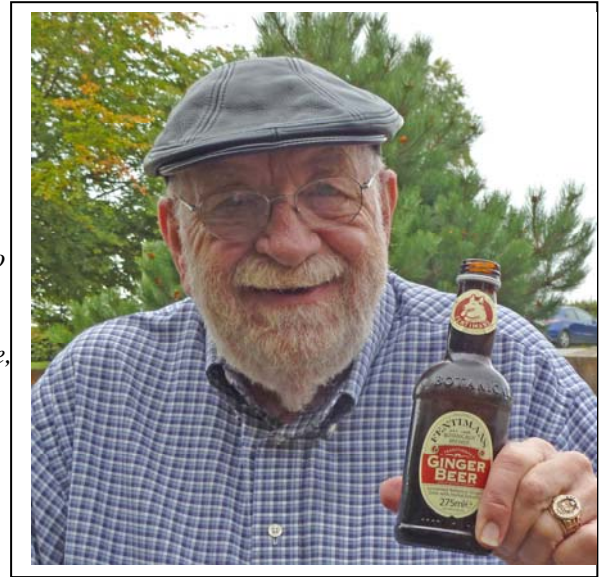


Thank you for visiting my web page!

I am happy that we met and I would like to offer some other information about myself. I am retired now, and living happily with my wife, Judy, in Lexington, S.C.

I attended The Ohio State University and graduated from Southern Illinois University, with a B.S. degree in Workforce Education and Development. Prior to that, I served with the Ohio Air National Guard and the Air Force in Ohio, Kunsan, Korea and Itazuki, Japan as a jet engine mechanic. (I enlisted for a pilot position, but they said they needed mechanics more ☺.) After returning home, I married my high school sweetheart, Judy, and started a career in aviation. I worked as a Ground Instructor, Single Engine, Multi Engine, Instrument and Airline Transport License Instructor. I also obtained a Commercial Helicopter rating, an Airframe and Powerplant mechanic certificate and an Inspection Authorization, which allows me to determine when an airplane is safe to fly. I also flew mail and freight, jet charter, and flew as a corporate pilot. In have type ratings in Lear Jets, Saberliners, Citations and King Air 300 and 350, as a single pilot. I thoroughly enjoyed a 20 year career in Corporate Aviation, then another 20 year career with the FAA, managing a pilot and mechanic safety program. I was selected as the S.C. Airman of the Year in 2000. I was also inducted into the S.C. Aviation Hall of fame! ☺. <https://scaaonline.com/?hall-of-fame=richard-dick-l-hitt> If you go to this web site, you'll see a picture of a kid; I was 14 when I soloed. In February, 2012, I was awarded the FAA "Wright Brother's, Master Pilot, Award" for having flown, safely, for over 50 years! We had a great party in my hangar! You can see a video of it here. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Azn4VJcZx8U>



In support of my three sons, Michael, Matthew and Adam, I have been an avid adult Boy Scouter. I started as a Cub Scout Den Leader when Michael, my first son, was old enough to join. I was an assistant Scout Master for the Boy Scouts for 18 years, until my youngest, Adam, finished scouting. I was also a scout Committee Member, Troop Treasurer, Fund Raiser Chairman, Camping Assistant and Aviation Explorer Post Committee Chairman. I am a member of the "Order of the Arrow", a Boy Scout camping honorary society. Also, in support of my boys, I went on two High Adventure Treks at the Philmont Boy Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico. I am extremely proud that each of my boys attained his Eagle Scout Rank! I also served as President of the high school ROTC Parents/Booster Club and as a Past member of High School Parents Advisory Council. While Adam was attending "The U.S. Merchant Marine Academy", my wife and I organized and formed the S.C. USMMA parents club.

In addition to my two sons, Matt and Adam, I also have two wonderful daughter in laws and brilliant, beautiful, granddaughter. ☺

I am now enjoying retirement with Judy. We travel extensively together. Our favorite destinations are the British Isles and the European continent. We plan our own trips, rent a car and travel the back roads of the country. We also enjoy renting "Narrow Boats" and traveling the canals of the British Isles. We can travel at our own pace through bucolic surroundings, stopping anytime and anywhere we want, whether it's an interesting old castle, or simply a unique town or pub.

For the last few years, I have been researching my maternal family tree. I have discovered, and met, cousins living in Ireland! I was able to stand in the same cottage that my Great, Great, Grandparents lived in and raised fourteen children! That was an experience that I will never forget!!! I have met six 2nd or 3rd cousins and my mother's 2nd cousin and her husband. They are all marvelous people that I am proud to have in my family. Judy and I have visited them numerous times and they have come to our house for Christmas.

When we aren't traveling, I spend a lot of time in our hangar. I had my own airplane for about 15 years, but I sold it a few years ago. It was a beautiful, 1950, PA-20, Piper Pacer. It won many awards for it's restoration and it's condition. See it here, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYPHV08G57E>. (I am not the Dick Hitt newspaper guy on youtube.)

I also enjoy repairing and maintaining old cars. I buy them when they have been neglected or will barely run and I bring them up to their one time beauty. I recently rebuilt a 1954 MG-TF. I am currently working on a 1946 Chevy pickup truck. Other cars waiting for my attention are a 1968 Oldsmobile Delta 88, and a 1957 Morgan +4. I have a red, 1955 Ford Thunderbird that I just finished and a 1990 Mazda Miata, that I drive just for fun. I also enjoy spending time with my wife and working around the house. I have three sons, Michael, who was killed by a drunk driver when he was 17, and Matt and Adam. I am so very proud of each one of them!

Thanks for coming to my web page. I am enjoying a great life and I'm glad that I could share some of my life with you. I have added some photos for you to see,



1955 Thunderbird



1955 Thunderbird



1946 Chevy pickup truck



1990 Miata



1957 Morgan +4



1955 MG-TF



1950 Piper Pacer, PA-20



*1968, Oldsmobile,
Delta 88*



*Bell-47 helicopter which I flew for many
years*