

Chapter Member On Veterans Flight

Colonel Joe Kinego, AFA Chapter 398 vice president for the Pensacola area, was honored to receive a Veterans Flight on July 17 over Pensacola Beach preceding the annual Blue Angels Pensacola Beach Airshow. The Blues celebrated their 80th anniversary with an expanded air show at the team's hometown beach in Pensacola, FL, which included the Veterans Flights. The flights featured WWII vintage Stearman and T-6 Texan aircraft. Joe flew in the Stearman aircraft and loved the open cockpit and radial engine. Joe (on the right) is pictured with his Stearman pilot Steve Jones.



The flight was great, but for Joe, the real honor was getting to meet and talk with many veterans who were also getting flights, especially the WWII and Korean War Vets, that included Navy CAPT (ret) Royce Williams who recently received the Medal of Honor from President Trump for his dogfight over Korea where he took on six Mig-15's in his F9F and shot down four of the Migs. Additionally, there were several Vietnam vets flying and it was great for Joe to exchange some SEA combat stories with them, some of which were even true!

