

## Syd Stealey

Dr. Sydnor L. Stealey passed away at 92 on April 24, 2018, in Fairbanks.

Syd was born Dec. 13, 1925, in Louisville, Kentucky, and first came to Alaska in 1947, working for the Road Commission in Fairbanks and Wiseman for part of one year. After earning his dental degree in Louisville and joining a dental practice in Raleigh, North Carolina, he flew

his own plane to Alaska, a Waco biplane, to tour the territory, returned to North Carolina and then decided to permanently move to Alaska in 1958. It was a decision, he often said, that he never regretted. He bought Doc LaRue's dental practice and became one of three dentists at



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him to fly extensively throughout parts of Alaska, particularly in the Brooks Range. He flew and worked on hundreds of small aircraft during his lifetime, working with other aviators, sharing stories, tools and labor. He joined the Experimental Aircraft Association in 1953, the year it was founded. Upon arriving in Fairbanks he stayed an active member in the aviation community until his death, with membership

the time in Fairbanks.

He met Mary Louise Twombly in Fairbanks and they married in 1960, raising three daughters here in Fairbanks. He had a long-time dental practice in Fairbanks until he retired in 1986, when he returned to his full-time love of small aircraft. Mary Louise Stealey died in January 1998, and he married his second beloved wife, Beverly Prince, in 2007.

His love of flying led

in the EAA, Daedalians, Quiet Birdmen, Rotary and other community organizations. He was also proud to have been a recipient of the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly Prince; his daughters, Katherine Bouta, Jessica Kelsch, Laura Stealey; and his grandchildren, Timothy Bouta, Alexandria Therese, Hannah Bouta and David Kelsch, Kate Kelsch, and Connor

Zingarelli, and Gregor Zingarelli.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. May 19 at the Pioneer's Museum at Pioneer Park to celebrate his life. A reception will follow at the museum. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the local chapter of the EAA or the UAF Aviation Mechanics Program c/o UA Foundation, account No. 21062.

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