

Happy Landings!!

Brief Introduction: I am not a pilot but my husband is. My husband likes to joyride whereas I like to land. That means he is content to circle the airport, do those touch and go things, or whatever it is you pilots like to do. I would rather play pickleball but if Mark mentions "day trip", I am all in. I don't mean this as a broad generalization, but my anecdotal experience is that these plane groups and organizations have a lot of male members. (Side note: as a mechanical engineer, I love seeing the women pilots and the young women aspiring to be pilots. Very cool!) And often when I ask the guys whether their wives or girlfriends like to fly, the answer is no, not really. That got me to wondering where the guys take their significant others. Then being new to the Kentucky flying scene, I am always interested in new places around here to fly! After 30+ years in Michigan, I had quite the repertoire of places to visit for the day and overnight, by plane; but, I am just learning about the cool places to visit here in Kentucky. I plan to share with you all my girlie adventures from a non-pilot perspective (which means we will talk about clean toilets, etc.) and I hope you will submit articles to Bob too!



TREE CITY STITCHES Greensburg, IN (I34)



So when I'm not playing pickleball, and Mark's doing his thing, I have discovered the joy of small machine applique projects. A couple years ago, I visited a quilt shop over in Greensburg, Indiana called Tree City Stitches. See the tree growing out of the clock tower? It was a delightful shop because not only were there quilts, there were also many applique patterns, kits and samples displayed. I had finished all the kits I had been working on and was itching to go back again.



Imagine my surprise, when on a beautiful Wednesday evening, my favorite pilot (and hubby) Mark Baty asked me if I wanted to fly to the quilt store the next day! I jumped on that! Yes!



The weather was as predicted when we got to the airport the next morning- not a cloud in the sky, so off we went! The flight was exceptionally smooth, 11 knot windspeed out of the east and very uneventful- just the way I like it! Oddly, we didn't encounter much air traffic. Flight was only about 40 minutes. It was obvious when we left the green hills of Kentucky and flew over the flat brown farmland of Indiana. The airport by the way has begun a huge renovation project! Ask Mark about it if you are interested.



We arrived at the airport and while I was using the bathroom (which was exceptionally clean, ladies), Mark chatted up with an instructor and a pilot working on his commercial license. The student was hoping for a bumpy ride later that afternoon- obviously he and I had different goals in mind!



We knew there wasn't a courtesy car at this particular airport, but it was gorgeous day, so we started the 2.3 mile hike into town. We were prepared with waist pack, water bottles, walking shoes, caps, sunglasses (and credit card haha).

By the way, the airport is located across the street from a water park, ice cream store, a playground, a putt putt and a fishing stream. What a fun place to take the kids in summer when everything is open!

We had only walked a couple blocks, when the student pilot mentioned above, stopped and offered us a ride into town. We accepted and were at the quilt store in no time. I had way too much fun stocking up on applique wall hangings and table runner kits for the next year!



Afterwards, we went to a local favorite diner called Stories. The place was jamming at noon, but by 1pm the crowd was thinning. Priorities, first thing I figured out is what pie to have for dessert, and *then* I figured out what would go with it! I went with coconut cream and Mark had the banana cream. We

split a humongous pork tenderloin sandwich. Meals were inexpensive (between \$2.50 and \$7.00) and tasty. I joked with Mark that I was a cheap date (if you don't count the plane ride or the quilt store).

After lunch we began the walk back to the airport. It really was a gorgeous day and it helped to wear off the lunch! Scenery along the walk back was interesting too.

The ride home was not as smooth. Afternoons are more bumpy sometimes and we climbed to 7500 feet. Wind was 15 knots out of the northeast. Again, it was uneventful.

The trip was special, and I hope my favorite pilot takes me there next year when I need to stock up again. I also hope that this trip might inspire you ladies who don't like to joyride to land somewhere fun!

Happy Landings!