

## ED ALLEN MEMORIAL AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP

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Gene Edison “Ed” Allen was born November 30, 1937, in Eastman, Georgia, to L.J. and Nellie Allen. He graduated from Eastman High School and Berry College in Rome, Georgia.

Ed was first attracted to airplanes and the people who flew and maintained them as a young man. After graduating from college, he decided to pursue his professional career in the sky; first as a pilot in the United States Air Force where he commanded the world’s most sophisticated tanker aircraft, the venerable Boeing KC-135; and later as a pilot with Pan American World Airways, which at that time was the flag carrier of the United States and was widely respected as the world’s leading airline. While at Pan Am, Ed learned of the new aviation venture which Pan Am was initiating with the famed French airplane manufacturer, Marcel Dassault-Breguet Aviation. This new venture, called Pan Am Business Jets Division, eventually evolved into Dassault Falcon Jet Corp., when Pan Am sold its interest to Dassault in 1981.

During the 1960’s, the men leading these two aviation giants, Juan Trippe and Marcel Dassault, jointly agreed that the worldwide marketplace, particularly in the United States, was ready for a new brand of aircraft, namely small, fast jet airplanes that could be used by corporations and governments throughout the world to provide safe, dependable transportation to airports which were not accessible to the larger air carrier aircraft. Together with Charles Lindbergh (whom Ed met several times), they selected the name “Falcon” as the trademark which would be used to identify the aircraft which were built in France by Dassault and sold in the western hemisphere by Pan Am. When Ed learned of this new opportunity, he jumped at the chance to become part of the Falcon team. He quickly established himself as a leader in the small group of pioneers who took on the challenge of starting an entirely new business “from scratch” and selling an entirely new concept to the traveling public—“business aviation”.

Ed was not only an outstanding pilot, but he also excelled as a manager and organizer of people. For that reason, he was selected to lead the Falcon Flight Operations as Chief Pilot and later as Director of Falcon’s entire aviation department. In this role, Ed nurtured a team of men and women who, through hard work and dedication, have earned a rich reputation as the finest flight demonstration team in the world. Ed was the holder of 15 world speed records in various Falcon models and had flown over 14,000 hours as pilot in command. His life ended on April 25, 2001.

This scholarship was created in 2003 by Mr. Allen’s friends and fellow employees at Dassault Falcon Jet Corp. in his memory, to benefit aviation students at Georgia Aviation Technical College. It is administered by the Georgia Aviation and Technical College Foundation, Inc.

**REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
ED ALLEN MEMORIAL AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP**

To **be eligible** for an Ed Allen Memorial Aviation Scholarship, you must:

1. Be a full-time student enrolled in an aviation related diploma or associate degree program at Georgia Aviation Technical College.
2. Be making satisfactory academic progress as set forth in the student handbook and have a minimum *overall* Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 at Georgia Aviation Technical College.
3. Have demonstrated an extraordinary grasp of your technical field of study through academic performance and hands-on proficiency as demonstrated by a minimum *program* GPA of 3.5.
4. Have demonstrated a strong work ethic and sense of professional responsibility as indicated by your overall work ethic assessment.

To **be considered** for an Ed Allen Memorial Aviation Scholarship, you must:

1. Complete an application for an Ed Allen Memorial Aviation Scholarship and turn it in to your assigned Program Chair not later than the fifth class day of the quarter. Include a personal resume' and a written statement highlighting how you came to be at Georgia Aviation Technical College and explaining why you should be awarded the Ed Allen Scholarship.
2. Be recommended by your assigned Program Chair and the Director of Instruction.

Applications will be screened for eligibility by the Vice President of Instructional Services, who will recommend the top three finalists to the President. The President will nominate the top candidate to the Chairman of the Foundation Board of Trustees, who will authorize award of the scholarship from the Ed Allen endowment. The award will be used only for expenses associated with educational costs, and is not transferable to another school or individual. Scholarship funds will be made payable and issued to the student. Assuming funds are available, the Ed Allen Memorial Aviation Scholarship may be awarded quarterly.