



Ronald Limes

Ron Limes was born and raised in New York, NY. While in fifth grade, his teacher sparked an interest in flying. He knew immediately that he wanted to be a pilot. After graduating from high school, Ron attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, majoring in Aeronautical Science. While attending ERAU, he enrolled in the Air Force ROTC program. After receiving his BS, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the US Air Force and entered pilot training at Williams AFB, AZ. His duty assignments included the C-141 Starlifter at Charleston AFB, SC and McChord AFB, WA. In 1999, Ron separated from active duty and joined the US Air Force Reserve. He was also hired as a First Officer by Alaska Airlines.

While serving at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Ron transitioned to the C-17 Globemaster III. He became an Aircraft Commander and later upgraded to Instructor Pilot. He served as the Chief Pilot in the 97th Airlift Squadron, 446th Air Wing Deputy Ops Group Commander and finally served as the Commander of the 313th Airlift Squadron. In April 2016, he retired after 26 years of military service.

While at Alaska Airlines, Ron was tapped early to join the recruiting team, attending hiring events representing the pilot group and airline. Ron upgraded to Captain on the B-737 in 2013. He then was selected as a Flight Ops Duty Officer (FODO), a critical resource for the line pilot needing assistance. In 2018, Ron became the Seattle Base Chief Pilot, supervising a base of 1500+ pilots. In 2023, Ron transitioned to a newly created role, the Director of Pilot Outreach, charged with fostering relationships and building pipelines with aviation pilot training partners. Most recently, Ron was selected as Alaska Airlines' System Chief Pilot.

Ron has served at the Museum of Flight since 2009. Ron was one of the founders of the Michael P. Anderson Memorial Aerospace Program and served as chair from 2014 through 2023. He also joined the Museum's Board of Trustees in 2019 and now serves as Board Chair. Ron mentors

many aspiring pilots, speaks at schools and special events, delivering inspiration to the next generation of pilots.

Ron met Celiane Widmer in June of 1992 and was lucky to marry her in May of 1995. Together they have three sons they are very proud of.