

THIS GUY'S THE LIMIT™

ARTHUR T. GALT JR.

One could live on \$1200 per year in those days. President Wilson had just defeated incumbent Taft, the Titanic hit an iceberg and sank on its maiden voyage. Charles Lindberg was a ten year old school boy and the Wright brothers had successfully flown the first self propelled airplane only nine years earlier. It was 1912, the year Arthur Galt was born.

Arthur T. Galt Jr. grew up in Evanston, Illinois, the son of a successful attorney and real estate investor. Like his name sake, he earned a law degree, although he never practiced law saying he "didn't like it much". But, he did like flying.

In 1949, Art and Vera Galt moved to McHenry County. They bought a 300 acre dairy farm and abandoned city life in favor of rural living. Like many good things, Galt Airport came about as a result of happenstance. Art and Vera loved fishing trips. They made many long treks, by automobile, to their favorite spot. One year, by chance, a friend offered to take them by air. Art said that after making the trip, in a fraction of the normal time, he became enamored with the freedom of flying.

Soon the Galts had their own aircraft and a landing strip behind the house. It wasn't too long before a friend asked if he could tie down on Galt's grass strip. First one airplane, then two, then more. After a time, the 50-gallon fuel drum became inadequate and real fuel tanks were installed, followed by hangars, employees, a maintenance shop and a hard surface runway. The FAA subsequently designated the airfield One Zero Charlie (10C). Today Mr. Galt's airport is one of the nation's finest examples of classic grass roots aviation.

Art and Vera flew their airplane all over North and Central America. Old timers at Galt have heard Art tell his stories of their flying adventures. Art always said that he did it all as a VFR pilot and never had much of a problem with weather or mechanical problems.

Incredibly, even into his eighties, Art's license never said "corrective lenses required". He never needed glasses and never lost his medical. Once, when in his mid eighties, in spite of finding him physically fit, his doctor expressed concern with Art's advanced years and wanted to restrict his license by requiring that he fly with another qualified pilot. Art's solution? He found another doctor and continued to fly as before.

Art and Vera welcomed everyone to their airport home, especially youngsters. He enjoyed conducting personal tours. He entertained scouts, school groups, neighbors and visitors. He was generous. Virtually every farm kid in the area swam in Art & Vera's pool. Friends and neighbors fished the ponds on the property.

In 1999, at the age of 87, Mr. Galt's contribution to aviation was formally recognized when he was inducted into the elite Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame, the culmination of over fifty years as an airport owner and aviation enthusiast. Those who knew him well would say that Art was a happy, easygoing person with a pleasant disposition and a child-like playfulness and approach to living.

Art Galt was a good man. His life made a difference in the lives of many people. He lived a long, full, happy life and created a wonderful grass roots airport as his legacy.

Arthur T. Galt Jr.
1912 - 2002

Tailwinds always Mr. Galt.

**ONE
ZERO
CHARLIE**

GALT AIRPORT
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