

Golden Age Airshows

Pilot Biography

The Pilot: Born into an aviation oriented family, Danny Sorensen has had a passion for airplanes for as long as he has had memory. From the age of fourteen the driving force in his aviation pursuits has been to perform in airshows.

Soloing a 1946 Aeronca Champ in 1967 at the age of seventeen, and with just seventeen hours thirty minutes in his log book, he convinced an instructor to teach him spins. A few months later a lesson in loops, snap rolls, and hammerheads, completed Danny's aerobatic instruction. He successfully performed his first slow roll in a 115HP Citabria after reading a how-to article in a magazine.

In 1978 Danny began flying Pitts Special biplanes, and that same year was selected by a local flying club to be their aerobatic instructor in a Pitts S-2A, although only a private pilot at the time, because he had the aerobatic background and experience that exceeded that of any certified flight instructors available.

Danny flew airshows in his Pitts Special, "*The Blue Dragon*", from 1988 through 1994, then took a short fourteen year break to design and build "*Unfinished Business*". Danny has performed the duties of a test pilot, having made the initial test flights on ten experimental airplanes (of which three were original prototypes), and has flown the complete flight test programs on six of those.

Danny has been a full-time career firefighter since January 1985, and has held the rank of Captain since December 2000.

Danny married the love of his life, Allyn Hansen, in 1972. They have five children and six grandchildren. They reside in Bountiful, Utah.