

Captain William (Bill) Langnau

Bill Langnau graduated from the University of New Mexico in 1979 with a degree in Business Administration and then commissioned through Air Force ROTC Detachment 510.

He was able to immediately begin his dream job as a fighter pilot for the U.S. Air Force flying the T-37, T-38, F-4 and finally F-16.

After marriage and dueling careers, he proudly joined Delta Air Lines. He enjoyed numerous positions and bases including on the B727, B737, A310, L1011 and MD88, leaving as a Captain on the B757/767 ER. One of his highlights was flying a trip literally around the world.

He battled cancer of the appendix from 2015 until his passing in December of 2019. While battling cancer he began providing for multiple very generous academic scholarships awarded to AFROTC Det 510 Cadets, most specifically those from military families and/or with financial need. On multiple occasions he noted motivation to do this because of his father (Richard) who enlisted in the U.S. Navy during World War II and served on the Battleship Mississippi in the Pacific Theater, as well as his brother (Greg) who served on the USS Saratoga during Vietnam, and his stepfather (James) who retired from the U.S. Air Force as a Chief Master Sergeant. He had no children of his own, but his nephew lived with him during high school and later commissioned into the U.S. Air Force as well.

In 2020, his wife, Mrs. Jeannie Langnau, forever supported this legacy by funding a permanent scholarship endowment in his name.

