



Captain John Earnest Bidwell

June 15, 1947 – October 8, 2000

John was born in Dumfries, Scotland to a farming family. He came to Canada as a young man and eventually took his pilot training at the Moncton Flying School in New Brunswick.

He arrived in the Northwest Territories for the first time in 1981. He flew a single Twin Otter for Lamb Air out of Baker Lake. When Lamb Air shut down, he worked for La Ronge Aviation in Saskatchewan and then in Yellowknife. Next, he flew medivacs and charters for Latham Island Airways in the King Air 200 and Twin Otter.

For a short time, he operated Imperial Aviation and introduced the Shorts Skyvan to the NWT. Subsequently, he flew as a contract pilot for North Wright, Arctic Sunwest and Adlair Aviation Ltd.

In January 2000, he became the base manager and chief pilot for the Yellowknife operations of Summit Air. He succumbed to a tragic accident near Port Radium, Northwest Territories on October 8, 2000.

John is remembered by his friends as passionate about flying and aviation, encouraging to aspiring pilots, respectful to others and loyal to his friends. Cheerio, so long good friend.