



# CHS Bio

## Captain - Queen

### Dotty Westby

1955

DOTTY WESTBY  
Secretary

Born 4/10/38 a little girl in Tulsa OK at St. John's Hospital, daughter of Elaine Carlson Westby & Gerald Holinbeck Westby, 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter, typical Aries: bratty & such. Older sister Joanie was my protector & guide. Dad remarried when I was about five, Mom when I was ten. Winters with Mom, summers with Dad & Kathy, my beloved new step mom. We moved to Venezuela after my Mom remarried in 1948. Joanie & I flew down for our first time on an incredibly beautiful Constellation, Chicago & Southern, toys too big for the B-4 bag stuffed under our arms. I'm ten,

Joanie's 12. Joanie & I clung to each other, exiting, continuing into the terminal there between soldiers with drawn bayonets! Caracas was home in winters for 5 years. Summers in Tulsa, riding horses. Swimming & horses in Venezuela too. Broke my arm when riding double on a little Criollo stallion.



Dotty at the 1958 Premier of the Movie "TULSA"

Some kid came up from behind and whacked the stallion on his hocks with a board – I went through the air: age 11. Got a couple of National Records in swimming & was on the Venezuelan swimming team. I fell in love with flying, riding, & drawing before I remember anything else. Returned to Tulsa for high school from Venezuela. I had loved that country. We survived three revolutions during my 5 years, the last one finally getting rid of the dictator Perez Jimenez. I still remember gunshots in the streets, the curfews, a friend missing from class in school (apparently her family was 'removed').

Returning to Tulsa, living with Kathy & Dad, plus three half siblings, whom I adored, was a challenge. Caracas life was simple: no TV, no driving cars, Saturday afternoon movies for the serials at the local movie theater, Sunday night square dances at our local American Church. Sounds the early forties rather than the early fifties!

Those three years at Central you all know about because we were all there together. I loved it, had a wonderful time, was treated so beautifully & totally enjoyed my years there. We were quite a body of kids, weren't we?!? I didn't miss a single football game in my junior & senior years. The sophomore year I was under all kinds of Dad induced curfews & rules so couldn't go places *too* far away!



Dotty – Front Cover

Off to Sweet Briar College, arriving at college with a big cast on the left arm from a water ski jump gone bad. Cute way to enter school. Rode horses, again jumpers, at school, working on the training of some new ones they had there. Lots of fun & laughs.

Married at 20 to Bob Moeller, lived in Lexington VA, Providence RI (where I got my BFA from Rhode Island School of Design), Paris France, then Durham NC, finally around to the Boston area: Dedham MA, then Dover. Kristen & Rob were born in Boston. Those two kids make my heart rejoice. Daughter Kristen is a Realtor/Broker, massage therapist, Counselor. Has her Masters. Her husband David is a son to us. David has many talents (including *his* Masters) & is now working as a computer programmer. Son Rob flies as Captain on a Hawker Jet for NetJets, having worked his way up from student through instructor to charter pilot, getting all the ratings as he went along. His wife Patricia is a daughter to us too. She's got her Masters. She taught Chemistry before babe two came along: Augustus now 2 ½ and Tristan, now 4 months. Both boys are gorgeous, of course. (I'm a gramma, you know). They all live outside of Denver. I'm so proud of them I could burst.



I was eventually divorced from Bob, ending up living in Dover MA. By then, I was in graduate school at RISD, working on my Masters in Printmaking & working as a Teacher's Assistant.

My beloved sister and protector Joanie was also divorced. She moved from New York City with her two girls, Jessica and Lea, to be near me. We had a blast, as usual. She was a poet, singer, writer, and actress. And she had always wanted to ride motorcycles. On Halloween 1977 she was hit by a truck near Walden Pond in Massachusetts. That night, we were five in my house in Dover, as her 6 and 9 year old daughters were now in my care. That was a rough period for us all.

I began flying airplanes at age 40 that spring of '78, and went from there. Joanie's ex-husband wanted his girls, so in the late spring of 1978, they went to live with him & his new wife.

Then, a move to Florida to help with my ailing Mom, now living there. I was flying professionally in Florida by 1980, flying Senecas, Navajos, Beechcraft King Airs 90's, 200's, etc., getting my rating in a Cessna Citation. Finally got hired as an engineer on the Boeing 727, progressing to the left seat. Nice being a Captain again. You're in charge!

You all perhaps already read my alkie story. I quit drinking in August 1987, finally stopped for love of my two kids, & secondarily by my love for flying. I never drank while flying during those ten years of drinking, thank the good sweet Lord. (I was a late bloomer in the drinking



department – didn't begin till I was 39!) The program of Alcoholics Anonymous and deep belief in my Higher Power, whom I call God, saved my life.

My beloved husband is Captain **Jerry L. Farquhar**, now retired from Delta Airlines, having flown at least a dozen different aircraft for them. He & I met in '88 when I was flying daily charter work in the Navajo. I flew him & his late wife Joyce back from Staniel Cay, Exumas in the Bahamas. Re-met Jerry 6 years later. It was 1994 & I was flying the 727. As an Air Force Academy graduate (the second graduating class), he was Air Force, then went into commercial flying in '63. He worked his way up through the equipment at Delta, was Captain on the last propeller trip Delta made in a Convair 440, and finally ended up on the Rolls Royce of big airplanes, the Lockheed 1011.



During our early marriage & with both of us flying, we flew on each other's flights. Jerry's last landing in Atlanta in that beautiful airplane was so quiet and smooth, the Engineer commented to the pax on board, "*Our Captain Farquhar has ended his long career with Delta, making a landing so smooth it was like a butterfly with a sore foot.*" We have videos from inside the cockpit and outside showing the slickly smooth touchdown in that huge airplane.

We retired from flying the big planes in 1996, now enjoy our little 6 place 1966 Piper Twin (an Aztec) plus the 1946 Piper Cub which has been in the family for 19 years. Before we completely left the business end of flying, we flew 10 place Navajos (just as I had started out) for both a college & a charter company.

We use our Aztec to fly back & forth from Indian Hammock, a real down home kinda place north of Okeechobee FL, & our trawler 'Watch out' in the Bahamas - peaceful & amazing, with wonderful people. Our other life at the Hammock is also joyous – horses, deer, target shooting, wild critters, & a Piper Cub on the grass airstrip. The kids, Kristen & David & Rob & Patricia, enjoy cruising too, knowing the Bahamas well. All six (grandsons too!) have played here in Indian Hammock. I love them all so much. I'm a very fortunate & blessed soul. Thanks for wading through this!

**Note from Jerry:** I did not teach this multi-talented woman to fly, only coached her a bit when she became a Captain on the 727 jet. The FAA inspector who gave her a check ride and signed her certificate was a Cuban gentleman named Max Rojas. Our mutual friend, Capt. Gustavo Ponzoa, led the eight B-26's which bombed Castro's air force. Capt. Rojas was his wingman on that famous Puma Flight. Capt. Rojas said Dotty gave him one of the best check rides he had seen. She's flown 19 different single engine airplanes, two of them with floats, two



Dotty's Family

taildraggers – one of those a bi-wing Stearman; 19 different twin engine airplanes, including jets and turbo-props, 1 three-engine passenger jet – the Boeing 727. She's also been in the simulator for the L1011 and was ready to get her helicopter license in the R22 when she got hired to be a Flight Engineer on that Boeing. Guess which she chose! She's flown into at least 44 different countries, and around 200-300 airports. She has these ratings: Airline Transport Pilot - Multiengine land: B727 CE-500 (Citation jet); Commercial privileges - Airplane Single Engine Land and Sea, which means she can fly float planes. She also has her Flight Engineer's rating-Turbojet Powered, which she got at 51.

I can claim credit for teaching her to shoot. We enjoy Cowboy Action Shooting under SASS (Single Action Shooting Society). Their largest event, Shootout at Mule Camp, is held in Gainesville, Georgia every April. It's the championship event for the Southeastern Region of the U.S. 'Dead Eye Dotty' has won the Senior Women's Championship – TWICE. The last time with 10 stages over 2 days, she shot 166 rounds with pistols, rifle, and shotgun. She missed 4 targets!

Your delicate little beauty queen also became a champ rider, swimmer, artist, airline captain, shooter, and also knows how to navigate a pretty big boat. She still won't do windows. I guess a guy can't have everything. – I forgot. She is also a Licensed Massage Therapist and gives me a nightly back rub. To hell with the windows!



Dotty at 1981, 1996 and 2001 reunions



Dotty – 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956 – as Class Secretary 1955

**Dotty Westby – World's Sexiest Woman – bar NONE!**