

In Memory of Eddie Andreini

In Flight USA

Annamarie Buonocore

It is with great sadness that In Flight USA lost a beloved supporter and member of its family on Sunday, May 4. Civilian pilot, Eddie Andreini, 77, of Half Moon Bay, CA, crashed at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, CA while performing an aerobatic stunt in his vintage plane during the Thunder Over Solano Air Show with more than a hundred spectators watching. The accident is still under investigation by the FAA and the NTSB. It was not clear exactly what went wrong.

According to www.eddieandreiniairshows.com, Eddie started flying an L-2 Taylorcraft while still in high school at the age of 16. He was a commercial instrument rated pilot and possessed an FAA aerobatic Ground-Level Waiver. Eddie had accumulated over 6,000 hours of flight time in a variety of diversified aircraft, including P-51's, Yak 55's, Pitts Specials, and the Russian AN-2!



Eddie in the hanger with his P51D Primo Branco. (Photo courtesy of Sagar Pathak)



Eddie in the skies over Half Moon Bay. (Photo courtesy of Sagar Pathak)

According to www.eddieandreiniairshows.com, Eddie had mastered Stearman performances to perfection! He was one of only a handful of pilots capable of extracting such a remarkable performance from the Stearman. His shows were an astonishing array of twisting and tumbling maneuvers of speeds from 0-200 mph. His fast-paced and colorful show was an exciting event that left audiences asking for more.

Eddie performed over 1,000 air shows in his lifetime and was a veteran aerobatic pilot. He died doing what he loved, and he will be missed greatly by In Flight USA and the aviation community. He was in the Air Shows Hall of Fame and kept a collection of vintage airplanes at the Half Moon Bay Airport.

–Blue Skies, Eddie



(Photo courtesy of Sagar Pathak)