



## Michael Anderson Sweat

July 20, 1970 - January 16, 2025

### CAPTAIN MICHAEL ANDERSON SWEAT

Delta Airlines

July 20, 1970—January 16, 2025

Captain Michael Anderson Sweat, 54, —nickname Maverick / Mav— flew his homegoing flight West on Thursday, January 16, 2025. A highly respected and accomplished aviator, Mike began Flight Training at 2 weeks old in his Dad's J-3 Cub and graduated as international Captain on Delta's Airbus A-350. Hired in 1998, Mike flew 26 years with Delta Airlines, logging more than 20,000 hours across the world in the skies he loved and with valued colleagues. In 1998, Captain Mike found his co-pilot for life in his Beloved Wife Kristie Sims Sweat and his co-pilots cherished Sons Zachary Anderson Sweat and Alex Michael Sweat and Doodle Dog Jasper. Both sons are now earning their wings.

Mike graduated Brookwood High School and is a proud graduate of Georgia Tech as is wife Kristie. Mike ran The Disney Marathon and enjoyed taking his Bride and Boys on cross-country, out-of-country, and spur-of-the-moment luncheons in their Cirrus SR22. He was a beloved, loyal friend, always ready to help or share a joke.

Michael A. Sweat is survived by his parents Bobby and June S. Sweat, Gainesville, GA; mother-in-law Cathy Payne, Dacula and treasured families and friends. He was predeceased by his father-in-law Billy Sims, Gran Mac & Poppa D Summerlin, and Gran Mamie Sweat.

Visitation 3-8 p.m. Friday, January 24 at Flanigan Funeral Home, 4400 Lee Street, Buford, GA. Services 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 25 at First Baptist Church of Buford, 4550 Hamilton Mill Rd, Buford, GA. Reception to follow. In lieu of flowers, please consider North Gwinnett Co-Operative, 4395 Commerce, Buford, GA 30518; [northgwinnettcoop.org](http://northgwinnettcoop.org); 770-271-9793. LifeLink Foundation, 2875 Northwoods Pkwy, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071; 770-225-5465.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **24**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Flanigan Funeral Home  
4400 South Lee Street  
Buford, GA 30518

## Funeral Service

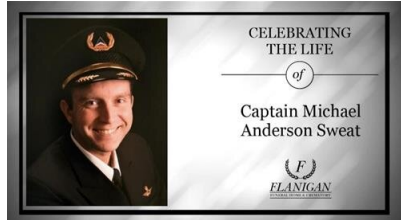
JAN **25**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Buford First Baptist Church  
4550 Hamilton Mill Road  
Buford, GA 30518

# Tribute Wall



“ *Flanigan Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Michael Anderson Sweat*



Flanigan Funeral Home - January 21, 2025 at 01:05 PM

WJ

*I was honored to have met Mike. Mike and I flew together on the MD-88 and I did some of Mike's training on the maddog. Mike was always a consummate professional with a warm personality.*

*My prayers and condolences for Mike and Mike's family are offered for the tragic loss of Mike way too soon in life.*

*Bill Botella*

William John Botella, Jr. - January 21, 2025 at 02:19 PM

HB

*May his Memory be a Blessing*

HARRISON BARTLETT - January 22, 2025 at 12:28 PM

JB

*He is now flying with God as his Co-Pilot> God did Bless him!*

Joe Basilone - January 23, 2025 at 09:05 AM

PK

*My deepest condolences and prayers for his family*

patti kleinert - January 24, 2025 at 07:50 PM

AW

*Bobby, I am so sorry to learn about Mike's passing. You and my dad flew together a long time ago. Andy White 404-558-1146*

**Andy White** - January 26, 2025 at 11:27 AM

RH

*I flew with Mike to China a few years back. He was a very sweet man who spoke of flying with his family in their small aircraft and how much joy it brought them. It was a quick trip that we flew together but one that stuck with me. It was a privilege to have flown with him. I am so sorry for the families loss.*

**Rob Hammond** - February 19, 2025 at 06:04 PM

NA

*I met Mike last summer. He was with his lovely family. I knew Kristie from Buford High School and she introduced me to Mike and her handsome boys. I remember exactly where we were and it's a moment I will never forget. He was kind and had a constant smile on his face. I know he is deeply missed. The Sweat family has been in my prayers these last few months and will continue to be.*

**Natalie** - May 07, 2025 at 09:58 AM

MD

*To our beloved son Mike--six months today since you suddenly left us and flew into the arms of God. How we miss you every second of every day. We will always carry you in our hearts and find joy in the way you lived your life and helped others achieve their dreams. We love you forever.*

*Mom & Dad*

**Mom & Dad** - July 16, 2025 at 06:49 PM

NA

“*Natalie lit a candle in memory of Michael Sweat*”



**Natalie** - May 06, 2025 at 06:48 PM

DM

“ *My deepest condolences to his family and much beloved friends! I met Mike back in the early 1990s when he was flying Cessna 310s to build hours at SBCL. He was a true joy as I rode right side many trips from Raleigh down to our regional offices in Tucker GA. A wise soul even at a young age!*

---

**Doug Meiser** - February 02, 2025 at 08:25 PM

JH

“ Please accept my deepest sympathies regarding Mike's passing. I flew a trip with Mike to China in April 2022 and it was unforgettable for many reasons. Mike was an excellent pilot, a kind soul, and an absolutely amazing person. Our task on this trip was to fly a 767 into Guangzhou to drop it off for maintenance and pick up two 767's coming out of heavy maintenance. Mike's expertise was needed to conduct a Functional Check Flight (FCF) on one of the two airplanes we were picking up. As luck would have it, Mike and his crew experienced a mechanical issue on takeoff and had to cut the flight short resulting in an emergency landing back in Guangzhou. This began many hours of trials and tribulations, ultimately leading to the temporary confiscation of all of our passports (all 6 pilots). Mike was absolutely calm, cool, and collected throughout the entire interaction, which for a brief time, seemed like it was turning into an international incident. Mike said it would all work itself out and why not leave the cockpit and join him in the forward galley to heat up and eat some really amazing chinese food that Delta had catered for us. Mike was right, it all worked out in the end and we made our way back to Incheon before repeating the same mission again a few days later. This allowed us as a crew to spend time with each other in Incheon where we were still stuck in the hotel during COVID lockdown. Mike insisted that I had to join him for happy hour and also breakfast each morning. Nearly two years later, I ran into Mike in Honolulu on a layover last year. We were both ordering coffee at the Starbucks in the Ala Moana Hotel. I recognized Mike and knew exactly who he was. I initially thought he may not remember me because we only met once before and only flew a few days together. He knew exactly who I was and was interested in hearing everything I was up to. He asked about my Captain upgrade on the 757/767, when I was going to apply to be a Line Check Pilot like he was, and if there was anything he could do to help me. What an amazing person we have lost. I am honored to have met and worked with Mike, even if it was just that brief but memorable trip to China. He is an inspiration for how we should all interact with our fellow pilots, family, and friends. Godspeed, Captain Mike Sweat.

*Jason Herman  
Captain - B757/767*

---

**Jason Herman** - January 25, 2025 at 12:50 PM

TH

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



---

**Tony Harkin** - January 25, 2025 at 12:25 AM

TM

“ *While I didn't know Captain Sweat personally, as a 24 year Delta AMT he was part of my Delta Family and I'm saddened to hear of his passing.  
My condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues and thank you for your dedicated service sir.*

---

**Todd MacLean** - January 24, 2025 at 08:00 PM

CJ

“ *Rest in peace, Mike. We will meet again. Love, Uncle Charlie Waycross*

---

**Charles Summerlin Jr.** - January 24, 2025 at 01:07 PM

SG

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss- what a shock. The good die young is certainly true for Mike. Hugs and prayers. Your former Northwicke neighbors- Sharon & Mike Gable



---

**Sharon & Mike Gable** - January 24, 2025 at 12:57 PM

DG

“ I am very sorry to hear of Mike's passing. We knew each other as young men. We met while at the Gwinnett Country airport in the late 80's. I flew with him. Laughed with him. Was once terrified by a joke he played on me (and then laughed about it with him). He was too young to go now. I'm so sorry for the family.

---

**Darrell Golliver** - January 23, 2025 at 02:27 PM

JB

“ What a joy to see such a precious little boy grow into such a fine young man. Although words always seem to fail, you all remain in my continued prayers.

---

**Joan Bonnett** - January 23, 2025 at 06:41 AM

GB

“ I wish to express my deepest condolences to the entire family and my profound sadness when I heard the news of Mike’s passing. Mike was a light at Delta that burned brightly. He enhanced so many lives and left his mark on all those who had the privilege to fly with him during his nearly 27 years there. Mike was a true servant leader and always brought a positive attitude to work. It was obvious he loved flying, teaching, and mentoring the next generation of Delta pilots. He will be missed so much by so many. God called on Mike to carry out his work on earth, and has called him home. Rest well my friend, for you have done His work and left an everlasting memory on us all. You have truly touched the face of God.

Captain Greg Bartley

---

**Greg Bartley** - January 22, 2025 at 11:20 PM

RW

“ Bobby and June,  
I was so sad to hear the news when I saw this email! You will be in our prayers and thoughts. I have many memories of Mike in the band. It was a pleasure to have taught him in the Brookwood Band. He was a totally-fun-loving student who always had a smile on his face and was one of those kids one will never forget because of his spirit. I was always challenged to have lessons and activities to keep his focus. He really enjoyed himself with his friends, and he was a student whom I looked forward to having around and enjoyed his company. I remember how bright and enthusiastic he was and how he really kept me on my A game. I'm saddened about how he will be missed by his family and friends but hope memories will give some comfort.

Rudy Wilson

---

**Rudy Wilson** - January 22, 2025 at 04:45 PM

JC

“ Jason C. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Michael Anderson Sweat.



---

**Jason C.** - January 21, 2025 at 04:46 PM