

“Why do you pay so much money for your kid to be a pilot”?

Many of us that have raised pilots have been asked that question. Learning to fly can be a life changing accomplishment and for young people can pay “dividends” their whole life. For those paying their own way much of this applies as well.

This was originally written about sports and rewritten by a parent paying for their kid to learn to fly.

“Well I have a confession to make; I don't pay for my kid to be a pilot. So, if I am not paying for them to be a pilot what am I paying for.....?”

- I pay for those days when my kid comes home from school and is "too tired" to study their aviation lessons, but they do anyway.

- I pay for my kid to learn to be disciplined, focused and dedicated.

- I pay for my kid to learn to take care of the plane and their equipment.

- I pay for my kid to learn to work with others and to be good flying club members.

- I pay for my kid to learn to deal with disappointment, when they get weathered out, the plane is out of service, or they don't get that lesson passed, or a grade they'd hoped for, but still they go back lesson after lesson giving it their best shot till they succeed.

- I pay for my kid to learn to set and accomplish goals.

- I pay for my kid to respect, not only themselves, but other pilots, flight instructors, mechanics and controllers.

- I pay for my kid to learn that it takes hours and hours, years and years of hard work and practice to create the best pilot and that success does not happen overnight.

- I pay for my kid to be proud of small achievements, and to work towards their long term goals.

- I pay for the opportunity for my kid to make life-long friendships, create lifelong memories, to be as proud of their achievements as I am.

- I pay so that my kid can be out at the airport instead of in front of a TV screen.

...I could go on, but to be short, I don't pay for a pilot; I pay for the opportunities that being a pilot provides for my kid to develop attributes and self confidence that will serve him well throughout his life and give him the opportunity to bless the lives of others.

From what I have seen so far, I think it is a great investment!"