

Marietta N/L for AUGUST

Chapter Contacts

Please forward to your members!



You may have noticedthat you very recently received the **SEPTEMBER** issue of Marietta's "It's Only a Newsletter" newsletter. But the **AUGUST** issue had somehow been missed! On checking with editor Rob Morales, the missing document was provided by return email. We haven't figured out what happened, but anyway, attached you'll find AUGUST, more than several days late....

....and since it's a month late, we note that it'll probably be our last report from the National Convention, with RC-3 and Chapter President Dave Lockhart reporting on judging at Omaha. Like everyone agrees who has tried it, judging is about the BEST way to improve your own modeling! So if you've never done it, ask to serve as a "trainee judge" at the next event you attend! (If nothing else, it'll keep you out of the vendor room frenzy and maybe save you some money! 😊)

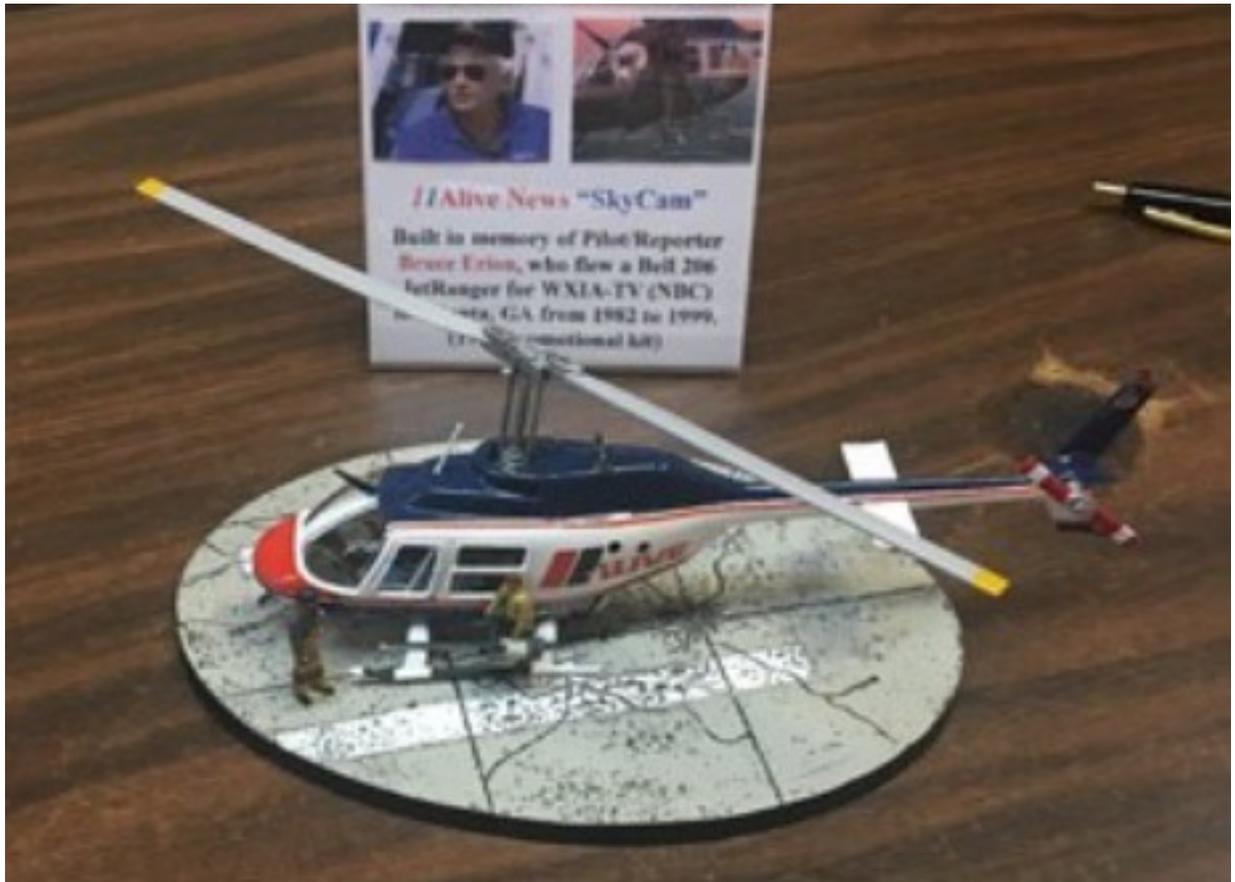
In the September newsletter, Dave had also written about how he takes his modeling with him “on the road” with business. Of course, there are limitations: for example airlines can’t understand why you want all those sharp instruments and flammable materials; at the same time hotels take a dim view of air brushing or spilled paint. But Dave found ways to work around those problems. In rebuttal to Dave’s column, long time friend and ex-USAF navigator, Chuck Davenport, found he had fewer problems to model-on-the-road when flying as a crew member in the “sneaky” RC-135’s” of our joint Uncle Sam. (Or maybe he just winked at the rules.) Chuck wrote the following comments on the subject:

“...really enjoyed David's "expose" on his modeling while traveling. I did the same thing when I was on active duty. Since I had a whole airplane to store my stuff, I built a large, wheeled travel case that held all my paints, equipment and even a compressor! That thing went around the world with me. Later, when I discovered paper modeling, I even built paper models while flying commercial! In the days before pre-boarding body cavity checks, I would bring a metal ruler, XActo blade and scissors on board with me! Try to top that for pure "geekery!" ”

Needless to say, some of his chapter friends who know him best, have since made some pointed comments

Along with all the happy newsthat can be found in these newsletters, there is unfortunately the occasional sad news; in this case the jolt of a death in Georgia of which I had not heard. This time it came via a model brought to a recent “Show ‘n Tell” by Marietta member Paul Crawley. It’s his build of the old (1987) Monogram Snap-Tite kit of the Bell Jet Ranger in the markings of his friend, Atlanta’s “11 Alive” TV station and its pilot/reporter, **Bruce Erion**. Paul built the model in commemoration of Erion, who from discussion of this model I learned had died of cancer this past June.

Even as a reporter and “helicopter jock” back in the seventies and eighties, Bruce was himself something of a celebrity in Atlantasometimes having more Georgians flock to him at events he covered, than the “real” celebrity he was covering!



While I only met Erion once, and that very briefly, it was obvious he was “the real deal”West Point graduate, a Ranger in Vietnam, and helicopter pilot/reporter extraordinaire. *

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/atlanta/obituary.aspx?pid=185849024>



IPMS/USA 6390

* My best Bruce Erion anecdote was the occasion of retired General Robert L Scott (of "God is My Copilot" fame and namesake of my old chapter in middle Georgia), flying the F-15's of the Georgia National Guard at Dobbins AFB.



Reporting the event on Channel 11, Erion repeated the comments of the ANG pilots who had flown with Scott (above), then in his eighties; quoting them as saying the general was “...a good stick”. It’s the ultimate fighter pilot compliment for another pilot.



Erion passed away at the age of 71. I have no way of knowing the full circumstances of his death from cancer, but I can't help but wonder if Agent Orange might have claimed another victim.....

<https://www.11alive.com/article/life/longtime-11alive-pilot-storied-journalist-bruce-erion-dies-at-71/449532626>