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## Office of Aviation

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### Eastern Iowa natives inducted into Iowa Aviation Hall of Fame

On June 8, three eastern Iowa natives will join 69 other aviation pioneers in the Iowa Aviation Hall of Fame. The inductees will join other honored Iowans, such as Clarence Chamberlin, the first person to take a passenger across the Atlantic Ocean; Eugene Ely, the first person to land on the deck of a ship; and Neta Snook Southern, the woman who taught Amelia Earhart how to fly.

An open house will be held Saturday, June 8, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Iowa Aviation Museum at the Greenfield Municipal Airport in Greenfield to honor these individuals. The induction ceremony will be at 2 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### Irwin and Irene Lindner

Irwin (Irv) Lindner was born in Keokuk, Iowa, in 1918 and became interested in flying early in his childhood. When World War II broke out, Irv enlisted in the Army Air Corp Reserve and was called to active duty to train as an Army flight instructor. He volunteered to ferry pursuit planes, where he met Irene. She idolized pilots, especially Amelia Earhart, and enrolled in a Civilian Pilot Training Program while a student at the University of Delaware. In 1943, the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) were organized. She ferried airplanes across the country, both as a WASP and later for a private company.



*Irwin and Irene Lindner*

Irv and Irene were married and moved to Keokuk, where they formed Lindner Aviation and became the first fixed-base operators of the newly formed Keokuk Municipal Airport. They became dealers for Aeronca, Fairchild, Eurocoup and Cessna aircraft. The Lindners were also approved to train veterans who were returning home. Lindner Aviation Inc. was sold in 1992, but both Irv and Irene continued to promote aviation. Irene died in 2002. Irv, 94, still lives in Keokuk.

#### Fred M. Wallace

Fred M. Wallace was born in Davenport, Iowa, on the Fourth of July, 1900. In 1919, he and his brother, Frank, formed the Wallace Brothers Aero Co. and established Wallace Field, the first airport in Bettendorf. The brothers provided flight instruction, including aerobatics, and gave rides. Built on Wallace Field was the Monocoupe, the first single-wing, enclosed cockpit aircraft. Fred was instrumental in the design of its wing.

Fred was commissioned in the Air Service, Officers Reserve Corps, in 1922. Following World War II, he joined with his brother to purchase the rights to a biplane called the Blackhawk from the Davenport Manufacturing Co.. Fred Wallace died in 1974.

#### Iowa Aviation Hall of Fame

The [Iowa Aviation Hall of Fame](#) was started in 1990 to recognize men and women in the state who have made a major contribution to aviation. It preceded the opening of the Iowa Aviation Museum, home of the Hall of Fame. Each year, nominations are accepted until Feb. 1. A selection committee, appointed by the museum's board of directors, evaluates the nominations on a point system.

The [Iowa Aviation Museum](#) focuses on the state's aviation heritage and is open year-round. It is also home to early civil aircraft dating back to 1928.

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