

For more information contact: John Niehaus Director of Program Development National Association of Flight Instructors (269) 355-6500 jniehaus@nafinet.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANGEL CORTES EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

KALAMAZOO, MI — 8/4/2017

The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Angel Cortes has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor.

Cortes was born in Mexico, and grew up in New Jersey building and flying balsa RC planes, and dreamed of becoming a pilot. He eventually became an IT professional working in that field for almost 20 years. It wasn't until



his wife gifted him with an introductory flight that Cortes was reintroduced to his dream of becoming a pilot.

Shortly thereafter, Cortes began flight training out of Morristown, N.J., where he earned his certificates. He changed careers a little over 10 years ago and now owns and operates a flight training center that he founded to provide training to students for Private through Commercial.

Cortes is a CFI/II and holds Commercial Single Engine Land/Sea, as well as Multiengine Land, holds a Cirrus CSIP Platinum, and has over 4,200 hours dual given as an instructor. He loves mentoring new pilots, flying a Citation in his spare time, and often volunteers for the Teterboro FSDO FAASafety Team.

Cortes is happily married to Sally, his wife of 21 years, and has two children, Billy and Hanna. When he is not flying, he enjoys building and operating flight simulators. The **NAFI Master Flight Instructor program** is the longest running and most prestigious FAA accredited master flight instructor program in the industry. The NAFI Master Instructor accreditation is earned by aviation educators based upon a system of advanced professional standards and peer review. The accreditation identifies and publicly recognizes those teachers of flight who demonstrate an ongoing commitment to excellence, professional growth, and service to the aviation community. The NAFI Master Instructor accreditation is for two years and may be used to renew an FAA flight instructor certificate. Applicants must have been a CFI for two years and have given 1,000 hours of flight instruction. In addition candidates must meet and document activity in four NAFI Master Instructor categories (Instructor, Educator, Service to the Aviation Community, and Professional Activity).

Members of the **National Association of Flight Instructors** work as independent instructors, at flight schools, universities, FBOs, corporate flight departments and in the military. Since 1967, NAFI and its members, who teach in 30 countries, are dedicated to increasing and maintaining the professionalism of flight instruction. NAFI members influence active pilots daily: students working to become pilots, current pilots training to advance their skills with new ratings or certificates and pilots who seek to improve their skills with recurrent training. NAFI also serves as an advocate with industry and government as a voice for flight instruction. NAFI helps shape the current and future direction of flight training. For more information about NAFI or the NAFI Master Instructor program call **866-806-6156** or visit <u>www.NAFINet.org</u>.