

GÜNTER VOLTZ (2004) (-2011)

At 88 years of age, Günter Voltz has spent 75 years instructing and inspiring a remarkable number of glider pilots both young and old. During his career, he has soloed well over 400 students and issued more than 700 A, B and C badges, as well as numerous Bronze badges. Voltz is an SSA Instructor and has been an FAA Aviation Safety Counselor for the 25 years preceding his Hall of Fame Induction.



A life member of the SSA, he spent many years as SSA State Governor for Wisconsin, served as an SSA Director and achieved top sales of SSA memberships in the United States. Voltz also volunteered his time to the SSA booth at the EAA AirVenture and tirelessly promoted soaring at civic and aviation groups. In 1969 he received an SSA Certificate of Appreciation for his dedication to youth in soaring.

Voltz owned three towplanes and at least ten sailplanes over the years. He logged well over 6,000 soaring hours, held several Wisconsin state records, and organized and managed numerous regional and local soaring contests as well as junior nationals. In addition, he founded and was president of five soaring clubs.

During his career as the head of the SSA Youth Committee, a position to which Voltz was appointed in 1962, the percentage of youth members reached an all-time high. In the 1960s and well into the 1970s, Voltz and his partners ran an Air Explorer post that produced an incredible number of young glider pilots. He encouraged these youth members to fly cross-country, resulting in numerous badges and records.

At the time of his induction into the Hall of Fame, Günter Voltz continued to teach soaring, fulfilling what he believes to be the highest calling – spreading the gift of soaring to youth.

Reprinted from the United States Soaring Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony program.

Günter Voltz hold Silver #1038 (1965) and the Symons One Lennie Pin #367.

SSA President Carl Herold (left) presents the Kolstad Award to David Mockler as Günter Voltz, Youth Chairman, looks on.

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Günther Voltz and family at the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
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