



CONSONUS
HEALTHCARE

New Chapters

RETIRED MARINE CORP COLONEL TAKES FLIGHT

Bill Chase, 79 years young, had always had a love for flying planes. His dream to serve his country as a Marine Fighter Pilot was realized in the early 60's when Bill's squadron was deployed to Atsugi, Japan. After fourteen months in Japan, Bill's squadron returned to the US. He completed his 32 year Marine Corp career at Swan Island, Portland, with the rank of Colonel, where he was officer-in-charge of the Marine Corps Mobilization Station. When he retired in 1995, his reserve certificate stated: He served faithfully and honorably, Semper Fi.

*"You can always tell a fighter pilot,
but you can't tell him much!"*

On June 26th, 2015, Bill took flight in a helicopter with his grandson at Hillsboro Aero Academy. This was made possible through the New Chapters program offered at Mirabella Portland, a partnership of Consonus Rehab. The last time Bill went flying was many years ago. When asked if he was nervous for the flight, Bill replied, "If anything bad has not yet happened, it is about to, rest assured however that any landing that you walk away from is a good landing."

Friends accompanied Bill to the airport, giving a festive farewell before the one hour trip over the Willamette Valley wine country. The event was followed by lunch at the waterfront Spaghetti Factory with friends and family. Bill's Grandson gave thanks to Bill in a finely written speech and his granddaughter delivered a memorable poem demonstrating her appreciation for Bill.