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## RISING TO NEW HEIGHTS

**FROM UNITED AVIATE ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT TO CFI IN LESS THAN A YEAR**

Scholarships change lives.

In 2022, Natalie Miles, EAA 1478672, was awarded the United Aviate Scholarship — funded jointly by the EAA Aviation Foundation and United Airlines to attend the United Aviate Academy. Natalie soared through the flight training program, experiencing opportunities of a lifetime.

Despite having no formal aviation background, Natalie was determined to succeed and beat the odds as a first-generation pilot in her family. Her dedication to succeed and persevere stood out on her application to the review board, ultimately leading to her being chosen as the recipient.

“Trust the process and eventually you will get where you want to be,” Natalie said. “All you need is one person to believe in you and your opportunities are endless.”

During flight training at United Aviate Academy in Goodyear, Arizona, Natalie earned her private pilot certificate, instrument rating, commercial pilot certificate, certified flight instructor rating, commercial multi-engine add-on, certified flight instructor- instrument rating, and multi-engine instructor rating.

While the program helped Natalie achieve her dreams, many days proved challenging, but she persisted. Natalie follows the motto, “the moment you stop [learning] is the moment you fall behind.”

“What motivated me to push through the program were my little cousins,” Natalie said. “I wanted to show them that anything you want to do in life is possible. I moved across the country and put all of my time into working to become a pilot, something I never thought could be possible.”

After earning her instructor ratings, Natalie now works as a CFI at United Aviate Academy where she is helping many students become pilots and earn their advanced certificates and ratings.

“Working as a flight instructor is very rewarding, but it is not at all easy,” Natalie said. “I hope that currently, I can be looked at as a role model to those who thought aviation was never possible.”

Natalie said all the hours flying, studying, and absorbing information helped her become not only the best pilot she could be but also the best person she could be.

“I want to thank my instructors, United Aviate Academy, EAA, my family, and my friends for helping me reach this point in my training,” Natalie said. “I strive to grow as a person, a pilot, a mentor, and a friend to all.”