

Angel Flight CENTRAL Ground Support Team (GST)

To our Angel Flight Central Ground Support Team,

Sandy and I have flown this nice lady a few times before, and each time she heads up to the Mayo clinic for follow up visits, she is taking a different member of her family with her. On this trip she is taking her son, the youngest of her three children. The taller gentleman in the photo is another Angel Flight pilot that we have met up with on several missions before, and he has mentioned a few times that he would love to join me in the Pilatus if an opportunity ever came up. So, I asked Sandy if she would mind giving up the right seat on this mission so I could invite Scott to join me in flying our passenger from Little Rock halfway up to the Mayo in Rochester, Minnesota.

This was our 198th mission as part of Angel Flight Central, July 16th, 2025.



Our passenger wrote the following in our guest logbook:

"Thank you so much for once again transporting me back to my appointments. You have been such a blessing to me and my family. Blessed to have met you. God bless you greatly."

Mission Details:

The mission today consisted of three legs. The first was to fly from our home airport (OJC) down to the Little Rock, Arkansas area. In between Kansas City and Little Rock was a small weather system that we ended up flying through and around on the way down there, and we encountered the same system on the 2nd leg back north.

The leg from OCJ to ORK (North Little Rock Regional) was at FL230 and took an hour and 12 minutes. We decided to use ORK because they don't charge any fees for using their airport. The main airport in Little Rock (LIT) does charge pretty high fees to use their ramp (both FBO's there) to pick up passengers, even for Angel Flight missions, so we just used the other airport and avoided the fees.

Our passengers were there waiting for us when we arrived. After photos and good-byes to her other family members, we loaded up and headed to Chariton Iowa (CNC) for the hour and 35 minute flight at FL240. As I mentioned, we ran into the same small weather system again but were easily able to navigate around it with onboard radar.

Upon landing at CNC we found a lot of chaos and activity on the ramp there! There were trucks, trailers, and crop-dusting airplanes all over the place. The ramp was so packed that we couldn't get through to park, so we had to shut down halfway on the ramp and halfway still on the taxiway. After handing our passengers off to their next pilot and watching them walk through the crowded ramp to the other side, we manually had to push our airplane backwards to hang over the grass so we could have enough room to do an immediate hard right turn and head away from the ramp back to the runway for our departure.

The flight from CNC back home to OJC was only 40 minutes at 14,000 feet. We encountered a few more isolated popup storms on the short trip, but it was easy to fly around them and keep ourselves in smooth air. Scott thoroughly enjoyed the day and told me he didn't really want it to end, so he asked if we could just keep flying around the rest of the day 😊

And here is where you come in. As part of our Ground Support Team, you have offered to provide a contribution to the Angel Flight Central organization each time we fly a mission. To donate to Angel Flight Central on the Internet, visit the following site:

<https://angelflightcentral.org/donate/>

Or you can send a check, payable to Angel Flight Central, to the following address:

**Angel Flight Central
Charles B. Wheeler Downtown Airport
10 Richards Road
Kansas City, MO. 64116**

Thank you so much for being a part of our Ground Support Team.

Sincerely, Joe & Sandy