

"This Is Your Captain Speaking..."

Written by Scott Wynn

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Over the years lots of people have commented to me that I have a cool job - and I think I do. I love being a morning personality of over 30 years on radio, and I am lucky to love what I do so much.

But this week I learned something about a former classmate from high school and what she does, that has really stuck with me.. It's really been on my mind all week because it's pretty darn cool! Although I've been wondering if I am late to the party on this one, and am the last one to find this out.

She is a captain of jumbo passenger jets for a major airline and has been for a long time. I gotta ask, how cool is that? Seriously, who as a kid at least at one time or another didn't want to be a pilot, or an astronaut? I know I did. It was right up there with doctor, fireman, and policeman. After learning this by accident from social media, I was totally impressed on every level. I mean someone flies these behemoths through the heavens, and we just take it for granted they are people that other people know. But people do these kind of jobs every day. It's fun to learn what friends are doing after all this time, that you knew as a teen.

She doesn't fly those little jets either. You know the ones you take to Kalamazoo, Sheyboygan or While Plains with two seats on one side on one on the other. Although I'm sure she can. She pilots the huge ones with multiple rows of seats. And the ones you are positive are not going to fly, as you seemingly are going down the runway at what feels like school zone speeds.

And it got me thinking that what we all do is relevant and important, even if we don't think about it much. Hopefully you are doing exactly what you want to be doing for a living. After all, we spend so much of our lives doing it. No matter what you do, someone relies on you. And that's the reward. One should be following the directions of their dreams.

I always knew what I wanted to do and I was lucky in that regard. And I've got to think the good captain did too. After all, you don't elevate to that position on a whim. She, I'm confident, had a dream, went for it, and is now living it. With me, what I do is far more than a job, it's a lifestyle with the early and crazy schedule and all. And I would bet that being a commercial pilot is as well, as you jet all over creation and back again. And I admire people that practice their passion in what they do and are lucky enough to get paid for it. How does the old saying go..., "*If you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life.*" Apt.

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So it makes me glad to know a classmate and friend is doing something so cool that it might be the envy of some of us she went to school with in a healthy way. I am happy for her. But I confess, I am a little jealous. Although upon further review, I may not be quite right for responsibly flying people all over the globe. I wonder if she gets nervous when she has to crack the mic from the cockpit and give the, "*Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain at 36,000 feet*" speech?

That part for at least for me, would be a piece of cake. Well done, and a big salute Captain A! Impressive.