Donald is currently a Captain with Southwest Airlines. He is a retired United States Navy F-14 Radar Intercept Officer. He has more than 35 years in professional aviation accumulating 25000 flight hours and four type ratings. Donald earned his Bachelor's in Aviation Administration from University of North Dakota, and his MBA in Transportation Management from University of Minnesota. Donald is married, and has two adult daughters. He is an avid ice hockey player and Dallas Stars fan, and follows Indy Car racing.

RESEARCH

Donald’s dissertation investigates the effect of air traffic control intervention on altitude deviations reported on OPD arrival procedures. He is interested in studying the ad hoc implementation of NextGen capabilities intersecting with legacy air traffic management techniques, and if this non-integrated approach is actually creating potential safety issues. Donald is also interested in why some of the ubiquitous automation features of modern transport aircraft are not being used domestically to relieve the burden on U.S. National Airspace System.