

## **Randy Smith**

**Certified Flight Instructor (CFI)**

**Certified Flight Instructor Instrument (CFII)**

**Qualified in: C172 Skyhawk C172 (180hp) C182 Skylane**

Randy is a Washington native and currently resides in Quincy, Wa (Sunland) with his wife (Amy). His aviation passion started many, many years ago when attending Washington State University and completing his private pilot license out of Auburn Municipal during summers flying a Cessna 152. After graduating college he got married, had a few kids (Max and Sidney) and put his aviation passions on hold. His career transitioned to online marketing and advertising where he created many innovations for various online publishers in the gaming, entertainment and video spaces. He never forgot his earlier aviation passion and always looked back and wondered what life would have been like if he continued his pursuit. In 2022 while taking a fishing trip with a friend (who also happened to be a commercial pilot) he was reconvinced that it wasn't too late to make a change. In June 2023 he packed the car with the wife and dog (Sully) and headed to North Carolina to attend an accelerated flight school where he became the OG (old guy) training with much younger students and instructors. Flight school was enlightening, challenging and at times incredibly humbling, learning how to fly again and having to re-learn all the subject matter which had been forgotten over time. When not flying Randy enjoys a round of golf, boating on the Columbia River and hanging out with family. Today - Randy is grateful for the opportunity to instruct at Bergstrom and looks forward to flights with his students. His intention is to create a fun and compassionate learning atmosphere where students can accomplish their goals. He also wants to be an example for others that it's never too late to follow your dreams.