

**FATA Entrepreneurial Excellence Hall of Fame Recipient**  
**June 13, 2006**



**Robert H. "Bob" Showalter, Chairman**  
**Showalter Flying Service, Inc**

Robert H. (Bob) Showalter is a second-generation fixed base operator (FBO) and the Chairman of Showalter Flying Service, Inc., a business operating on the Orlando Executive Airport since 1945. Bob celebrates his 33rd year at Showalter this Fall.

Mr. Showalter, a native of Orlando, received his Bachelor Degree in Economics from Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida and his Masters Degree in Business Administration from The Roy E. Crummer School of Business and Finance at Rollins.

He is a past Chairman of the Board of the National Air Transportation Association, the youngest person ever to hold that post; and twice past President of the Florida Aviation Trades Association. He currently serves on the NBAA Security Council.

Bob spent two years as the Vice President of Operations for Butler Aviation, at the time listed on the NYSE and the largest Fixed Base Operator chain in the country. Bob was responsible for 26 FBO's and 3500 employees throughout the United States. He returned to Orlando after the sale of Butler had been arranged. During his career, he received the Top Salesman award from Piper Aircraft four times. As a commercial pilot, his flight experience exceeds 16,000 hours. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of Rollins College for over 15 years and served at various times on the Executive Committee of that Board, as Chairman of the Audit Committee, as a member of the Business Management Committee and as Chairman of the Committee on Trustees.

Bob has also received the National Business Aviation Association's *American Spirit Award* and is on the Board of Directors of Extra Aircraft, a German public company.

The NBAA has chosen the Showalter Ramp as the home of the Static Display for the NBAA Convention for 5 of the past 10 years and plans many more in the future!

Showalter Flying Service is one of Florida's oldest and largest family-owned FBO. *Professional Pilot* magazine has ranked Showalter the number one FBO in Central Florida and one of the top Best Independent FBO's in the US each of the last ten years. A veteran of over 600 aircraft sales, Bob currently heads the Aircraft Management function for a major Orlando corporation and acts as a consultant on aircraft selection, sales and customer service.

Married for over 35 years to wife and Showalter Flying Service President Kim Showalter, they have two grown children, both happily active in the business. Bob enjoys singing, recreational flying, walking tours, fishing, a second home in Vermont and his newest hobby – Grandfathering!