

Wisdom from the Manual – Part 2

"You've never been lost until you've been lost at Mach 3."

Paul F. Crickmore (test pilot)

A Navigator's Definition of Latitude & Longitude:

Latitude is Where We are Lost, & Longitude is How Long We've been Lost There!

"The only time you have too much fuel is when you're on fire."

"If the wings are travelling faster than the fuselage, it's probably a helicopter --
however, it's probably unsafe in any case"

"When one engine fails on a twin-engine airplane you always have enough power left
to get you to the scene of the crash."

"What is the similarity between air traffic controllers and pilots?"

If a pilot screws up, the pilot dies; If ATC screws up, the pilot dies."

The three most common expressions (or famous last words), in aviation are:

"Why is it doing that?" "Where are we?" And "Oh Sh-t!"

"Airspeed, altitude and brains.

Two out of three are needed to successfully complete the flight."

"Mankind has a perfect record in aviation; we never left one up there!"

"Flying the airplane is more important than radioing your plight to a person on the
ground incapable of understanding or doing anything about it."

"The Piper Cub is the safest airplane in the world; it can just barely kill you." -

Attributed to Max Stanley (Northrop test pilot)

"There is no reason to fly through a thunderstorm in peacetime."

Sign over squadron ops desk at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, 1970

"If something hasn't broken on your helicopter, it's about to."

"You know that your landing gear is up and locked when it takes FULL Power to taxi
to the terminal."

As the test pilot climbs out of the experimental aircraft, having torn off the wings and
tail in the crash landing, the crash truck arrives; the rescuer sees a bloodied pilot and
asks, "What happened?"

The pilot's reply: "I don't know, I just got here myself!"