

Charles M. Springer

Aviation | Military Service | Leadership | Safety & Operations

Commander, U.S. Navy (Ret.)	Naval Aviator
Commercial Airline Pilot	Boeing 737
Lt Col, Civil Air Patrol	Illinois Wing Director of Operations

Professional Biography

Charles M. Springer is an experienced aviation professional and retired U.S. Navy Commander whose career spans naval aviation, commercial airline operations, command and operational leadership, aviation safety and security, training, and public-service aviation.

Military Service

Springer retired at the rank of Commander, U.S. Navy (O-5). His naval aviation background included maritime patrol service associated with the P-3C Orion and EP-3 communities, operational planning, weapons and mission responsibilities, training, command leadership, deployed service, and shipboard duties aboard USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67).

Commercial Aviation

His commercial aviation career has included service with Continental Airlines, SkyWest Airlines, Southern Air, Atlas Air, and American Airlines. He has held airline leadership responsibilities, including Assistant Chief Pilot duties, and has served as a Boeing 777 Captain. He currently flies the Boeing 737 family for American Airlines.

Civil Air Patrol

In Civil Air Patrol, Springer serves as a Lieutenant Colonel and Illinois Wing Director of Operations. His responsibilities include aviation readiness, operational training, emergency-services support, mission execution, inspection and compliance activities, and wing-level coordination of pilots, aircraft, and squadrons.

Featured Publication

In April 2026, SEAPOWER published his first-person feature, "In My Own Words," tracing his path from an early interest in naval aviation through Navy service, commercial aviation, and Civil Air Patrol. The article emphasizes the responsibility of experienced leaders to pass on what they have learned and help prepare the next generation to lead.

Public Profile Note

This biography is intentionally limited to public professional information and omits residential, family, personal telephone, security-sensitive, and mission-specific operational details.