



A FATHER'S TRIBUTE

Our Little Pilots

Sixteen years of family adventure • Kaiden • Kylo • Leah

James "Jimmy" Meegan • With gratitude to my father, James Meegan • October 2026

Make room for what they love.

As their father, I wanted their interests to become experiences they could touch, try and remember.

That meant time together, qualified instruction, equipment, travel and the choice to keep showing up.

WITH GRATITUDE TO MY DAD

A family interest, shared across generations.

My father, James Meegan, belongs in this story too. The children's adventures sit within a family tradition of spending time together and encouraging them to explore.



Family aviation archive • Copies saved in 2020; outing dates not established.

Close enough to imagine flying.

An early aviation photograph in the recovered archive places childhood curiosity beside a real training aircraft.

The next step was giving that curiosity room to grow.

Original photo: IMG_20170809_132103334.jpg • Archive date, not a flight-log entry.



Kaiden, now 16.

At least 10 supervised airplane or helicopter sessions, typically described as 1–2 hours each.

Hands-on opportunities included steering and participating in takeoffs and landings under specialist supervision.



Most sessions recalled from Joseph A. Hardy Connellsville Regional Airport over roughly eleven years. Individual logbook entries were not recovered.

The cockpit becomes a place to learn.

Seats, instruments and controls invite questions. Even an aircraft visit on the ground can make aviation feel possible.



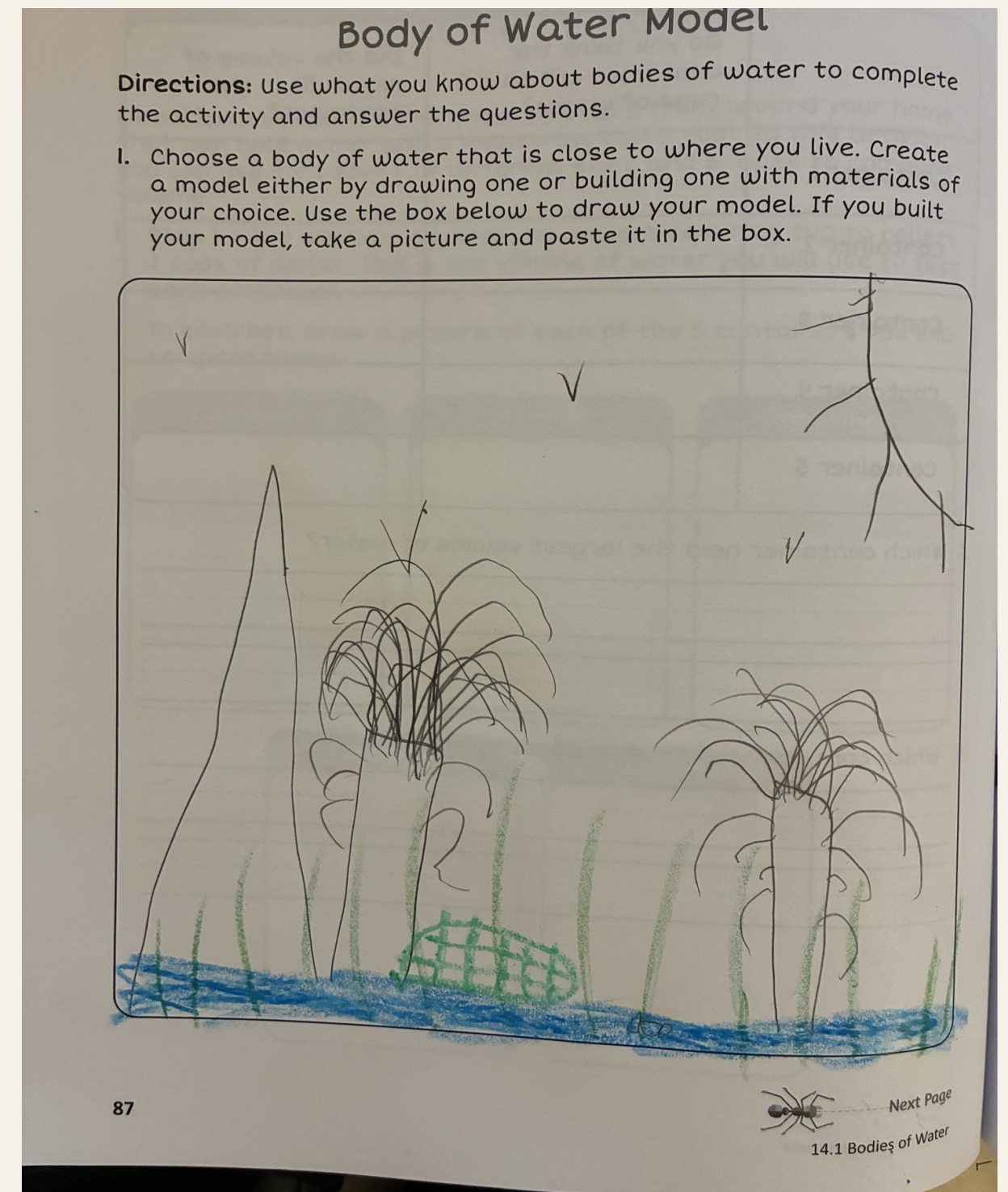
Archive dated June 18, 2023 • These photographs document exploration on the ground.

Kylo's questions deserve time too.

Our family account includes supervised aviation time for Kylo.

His labeled water science project adds another part of the story: observing, drawing and making sense of the world.

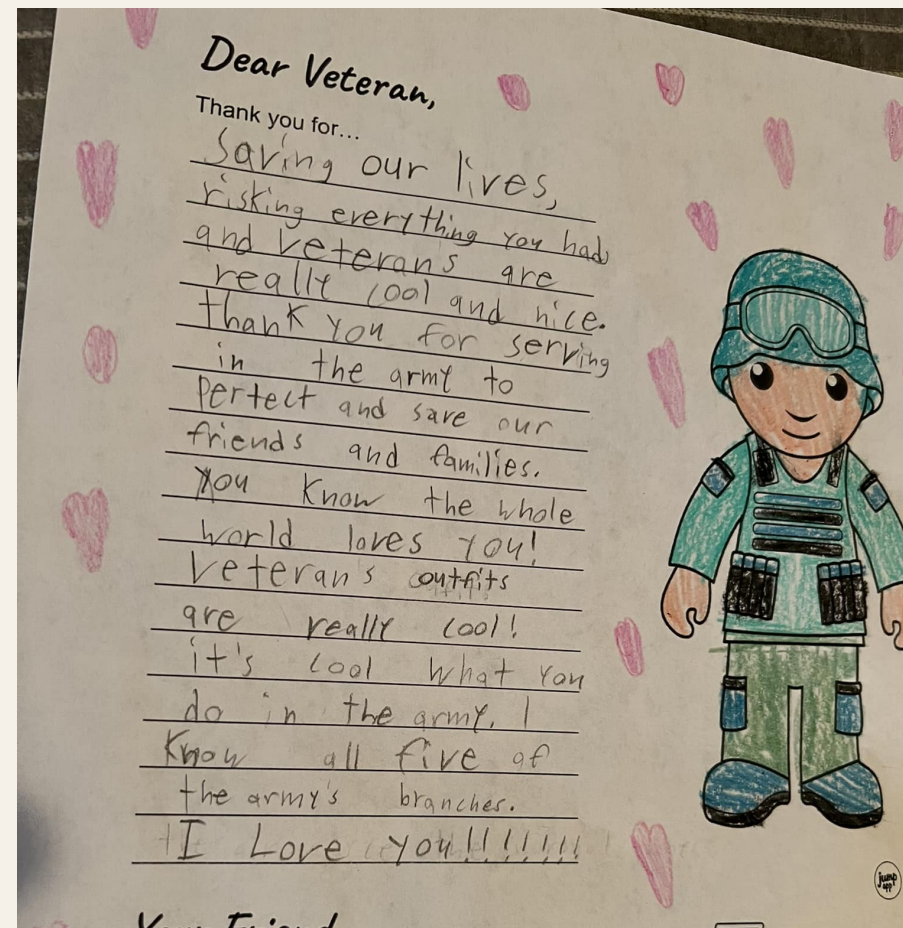
“Kylo science project 1” • Family email dated December 18, 2025.



Leah belongs in the whole story.

Leah's interests, milestones and creations deserve the same attention.

Our family account includes aviation time for her too. Her own artwork brings her voice into this tribute.



Labeled artwork, November 2022 • Birthday archive, September 2023.

Curiosity keeps going beyond the runway.

A day outside. Something worth noticing. Two
brothers together.

Adventure also lives in the ordinary moments
a parent chooses to make time for.

Email caption: “Kaiden and Kylo with the American bald eagle” • Sent October 14, 2025.



A little Pennsylvania winter, in summer.

We saw Kaiden during the summer, and he missed Pennsylvania's snowy winters.

Our annual summer trips to the Carousel Resort in Ocean City gave us a way to bring him closer to home: time together on the resort's indoor ice rink.

The annual tradition and its meaning are the father's account. Individual trip dates: unknown unless noted on the next slide.

Dates the archive can actually give us.

Carousel Resort, Ocean City, Maryland: a dated stay follow-up supports a recent visit in June 2019.

Record	Displayed date and time	What it establishes
Skating photo index	Aug 27, 2017 • 11:23:48 a.m.	Skating archive timestamp
Skating photo index	Jun 16, 2019 • 9:17:09 p.m.	Skating archive timestamp
Carousel stay follow-up	Jun 21, 2019 • 11:02 a.m.	Email refers to a recent visit
Skating photo index	Jun 15, 2021 • 4:50:47 p.m.	Skating archive timestamp

Photo timestamps are archive values. The skating photos’ exact venue is unconfirmed from the recovered metadata. Time zone for these displayed timestamps: unknown.

On the water, we learned together.



Our family reports earning boating certificates together and spending hundreds of hours aboard in different waters.

Family recollection of certificates and hours • Certificates and a consolidated vessel log were not recovered.

Learning responsibility is part of the adventure.

Time aboard creates
chances to talk about
equipment, conditions,
awareness and looking after
one another.

The life jackets in these
photos are a visible part of
that shared experience.



Original helm photo dated June 19, 2020 • Companion image is a later copy.

PLACES RECALLED BY THE FAMILY

A wider world to experience together.

Pennsylvania

Texas

Louisiana

Florida • Gulf and Atlantic waters



Travel geography comes from the family's account. The featured boat image is not geolocated to every state.

The hours around the adventure matter.

Planning. Driving. Preparing equipment.
Waiting for conditions. Paying for instruction.
Taking photographs. Helping with projects.

That is also time spent caring for a child's interests.



Labeled family email • December 7, 2025.

What supervised flight time can cost.

Illustrative replacement value for the first ten reported sessions, if they contained 10–20 billable flight hours.

Benchmark	10 flight hours	20 flight hours
Cessna 172 + instructor \$300/hour	\$3,000	\$6,000
Robinson R22 + instructor \$400–\$475/hour	\$4,000–\$4,750	\$8,000–\$9,500

Aircraft and instructor only. Different aircraft scenarios are alternatives; do not add them together.

Each child represents a personal commitment.

The rate of one supervised hour is meaningful. A defensible lifetime total also needs each child’s records.

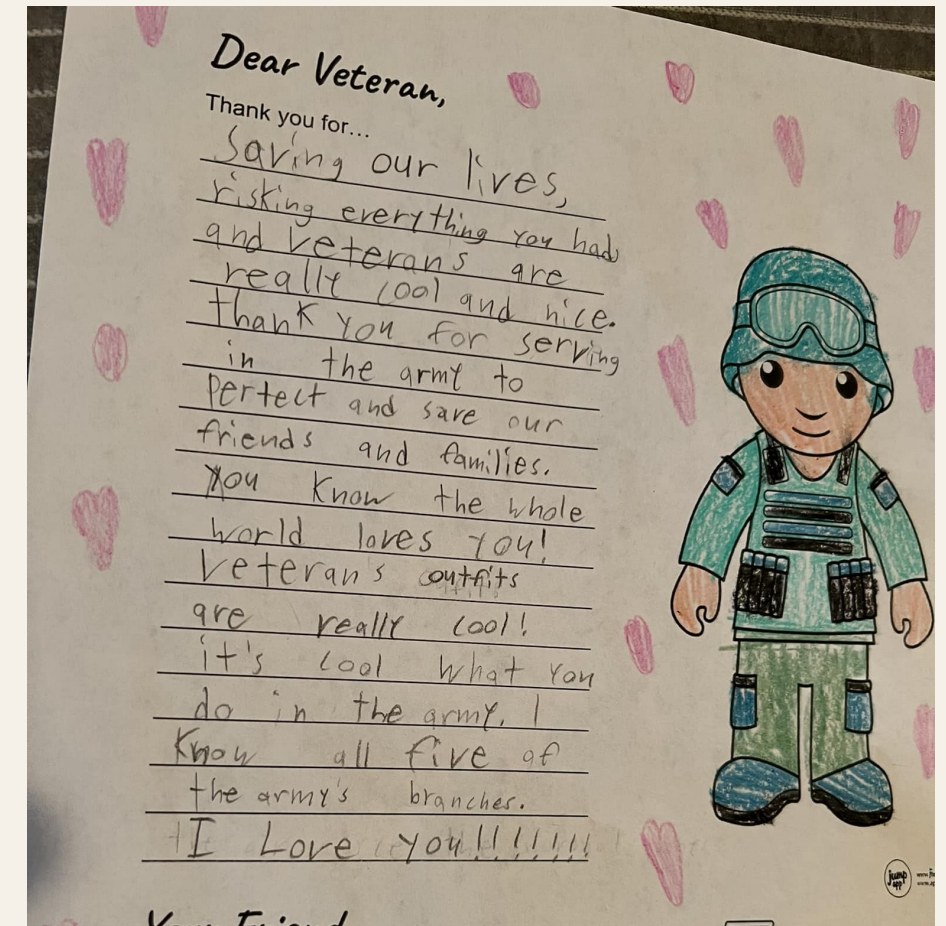
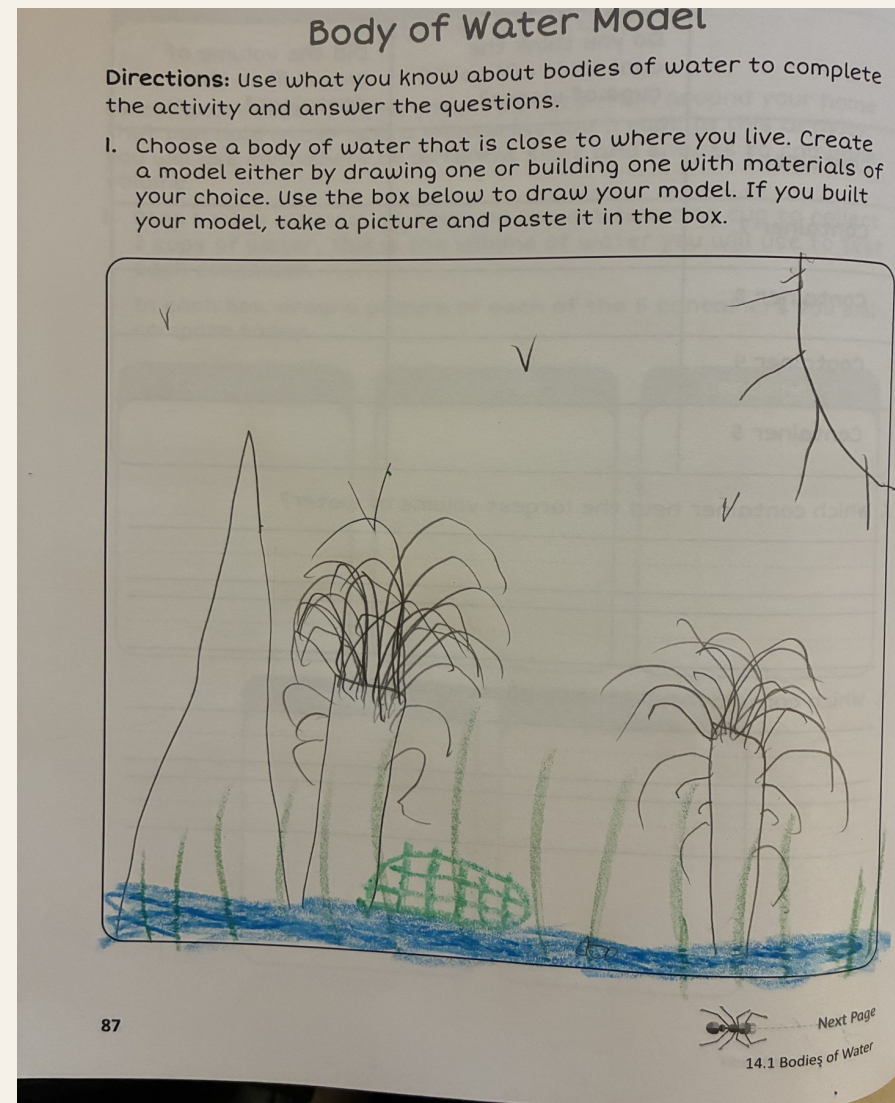
Child	Family account	Cost treatment
Kaiden	10+ sessions; 1–2 hours each	10–20-hour scenario only
Kylo	Also has aviation hours	No total assigned
Leah	Also has aviation hours	No total assigned

For any child: \$300 × airplane hours + \$400–\$475 × R22 hours, using these published comparisons. Travel, ground tuition and ownership costs excluded.

Adventure continues in what they create.

Kylo's water model. Leah's
handmade tribute.

Their work belongs beside
the big outings because
their interests deserve
attention at every scale.



We lost a hull. We keep the memories.

Our family recently lost our main personal boat hull after damage, weather, age and bad luck.

The vessel carried us for a time. The shared experiences remain part of our family.



Loss circumstances are the father's account. The photograph records an earlier family boating moment.

FOR MY CHILDREN • WITH THANKS TO MY FATHER, JAMES

May you always know
your interests mattered.

Kaiden. Kylo. Leah.

I wanted you to have room to explore, people
beside you and opportunities to discover
what you could do.

With love, Dad.



Our Little Pilots • A family tribute by James “Jimmy” Meegan

What this edition is based on.

Original photo downloads from the signed-in family Google Photos account; selected labeled family emails; the father's account; and published flight-training rates.

Recovered photos carry archive dates from 2017 onward, including summer skating indexes. The sixteen-year span is the family's account, not sixteen independently documented annual entries.

Later copies, duplicate images and aircraft visits on the ground are not counted as additional flight sessions.

Prepared October 25, 2026 • Private contact details and unrelated correspondence omitted.

Hours, credentials and costs: reading guide.

10+ sessions × 1–2 hours describes Kaiden’s reported session duration. Airborne time, ground instruction and logbook credit remain unreconciled.

Kylo and Leah: aviation time reported; individual totals not established. Boating certificates and hundreds of water hours: family account; certificate copies and complete logs not recovered.

The separate 120+ personally logged hours remain unassigned. No grand total or dollar value is calculated from them.

Published comparisons illustrate the scale of opportunity. They do not establish what the family actually paid.

Published cost sources.

Aero Club of Pennsylvania • Learn to Fly

2025 benchmark: Cessna 172, \$200/hour including fuel; instructor, \$100/hour.

aeroclubpa.org/learn-to-fly/

Panhandle Helicopter Academy • FAQs

Robinson R22, \$475/hour; \$400/hour with a 10-hour block. Instructor and fuel included.

panhandlehelicopteracademy.com/faqs

These providers are comparison sources. Neither is represented as the family's instructor or the source of the family's historical bills.