

LARGER THAN LIFE

A CELEBRATION OF GREATNESS



Orville Wright



Wilbur Wright

(August 19, 1871 - January 30, 1948)

(April 16, 1867 - May 30, 1912)

Revolutionaries

Orville Wright & Wilbur Wright

(1871 - 1948) (1867 - 1912)

Revolutionaries

INTRODUCTION

Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur were two Americans who are generally **credited with building the world's first successful airplane** and making the first controlled, powered and sustained heavier-than-air human flight.

The Wright brothers were **the first to invent aircraft controls that made commercial flight practical.**

BIRTH AND EARLY YEARS

The Wright brothers were two of seven children born to Milton Wright and Susan Catherine Koerner. Wilbur Wright was born near Millville, Indiana in 1867; Orville in Dayton, Ohio in 1871. Their father was a bishop. They were encouraged to learn at home, no matter what the topic.

CHRONOLOGY

1878: The boys' fascination with aeronautics was kindled in 1878, when their father returned home with a toy helicopter powered by a rubber band. Then, they built their **first aircraft, a rubber band powered helicopter** they called a 'bat'.

1885 - 1886: In 1885, a sports injury led to health problems that prevented Wilbur from attending college. In 1886, Orville started a printing business while he was still in high school. Both brothers received high school educations, but did not receive diplomas.

1886 - 1889: Orville published a **newspaper**, the '**West Side News**', and Wilbur joined him as an editor. The newspaper business did not profit and the Wrights returned to printing to make a living.

1893 - 1895: In 1893, the Wright brothers began to sell and repair bicycles. In 1889, they geared up to manufacture their own bicycles, the "St. Clair" and the "Van Cleve." The bike business was profitable.

1896: The Wrights **took an interest in the 'flying problem'** after hearing of the flight of Samuel Langley's unmanned 'Aerodrome' and the death of glider pilot Otto Lilienthal.

1899: Wilbur **devised a revolutionary control system for aircraft** and built a kite to test it.

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1900 - 1902: The Wright brothers **flew gliders** at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, refining their control system. At home in Dayton, Ohio, they **built a wind tunnel and conduct research on wing shapes.**

1903: The Wright brothers **made the first controlled, sustained powered flight at Kitty Hawk.** On December 17, 1903, in a flight lasting only 12 seconds and covering just 120 feet, **Orville did what men and women had only dreamed of doing for centuries, . . . He flew.**

1904 - 1905: The Wrights **developed a practical airplane** at Huffman Prairie near Dayton, Ohio.

1906: The U.S. Patent Office granted a patent to the Wright Brothers on their airplane control system.

1908: The Wright brothers **demonstrated a two-passenger airplane in Europe and America.**

1909: The Wrights **began to manufacture and sell airplanes.** They launched patent suits against Glenn Curtiss and other airplane builders who are using their control system without permission.

1912: Wilbur Wright died in Dayton, Ohio.

1915: Orville Wright sold his airplane company for \$1.5 million.

1920: Orville was **appointed** to the **National Advisory Council on Aeronautics (NACA, the forerunner of NASA).** He remained an active participant for the rest of his life.

1922: Orville **developed the split flap,** which was used to slow airplanes in a steep dive. It was his last aeronautical invention.

1948: Orville Wright died in Dayton, Ohio and the Wright brothers' first powered airplane, the 1903 Flyer 1, was enshrined at the Smithsonian Institution.

Quotes

“Isn't it astonishing that all these secrets have been preserved for so many years just so we could discover them!”

“If birds can glide for long periods of time, then... why can't I?”

“It is possible to fly without motors, but not without knowledge and skill.”

Quiz

- 1) What did Orville and Wilbur Wright call their first aircraft, which they build in 1878?
- 2) In which year did make the first controlled, sustained powered flight?
- 3) In 1915, Orville Wright sold his airplane- company for \$___ million.

Send in your answers to one2one@clarislifesciences.com

First 3 correct answers will get Clarista coupon worth RS. 50.

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