

Linda and Walt Then

Linda and Walt Then live in Calgary, Alberta . Walt started ballooning in 1980, crewing for the Calgary Balloon Club. Linda started in 1982 after the birth of their second son, Lucas. Walt got his pilot's license through the Calgary Balloon Club in 1982. Linda and their two boys crewed for Walt until 1990 when Linda also completed her training. Their first balloon, BigToy celebrated a 30th birthday this year and is being retired after many wonderful flights and times. They will be flying their new envelope, BigToyII at the High River event in 2017.

In the early years, while working as a heavy duty mechanic in Calgary, Walt also flew commercially for Cameron Balloons / Aero Dynamics. Linda also worked for 18 years for Cameron Balloons / Aero Dynamics and while retiring last year from balloon repairs, she still maintains her 27 year AME license.

While they enjoyed travelling to many balloon events over the years, they now are content with the many local events around Alberta, especially their own event held for the past 35 years in October each year in Raven, Alberta. As members of the Calgary Balloon Club, they have contributed over the years to ballooning and have enjoyed meeting and making many new friends.