

# **Unveiling the Trailblazing Spirit: Viola Gentry, North Carolina's Aviatix and Flying Cashier**

## **Prologue: A Flight to Remember**

In the annals of aviation history, where the skies have witnessed countless daring feats, the story of Viola Gentry stands out as a testament to the indomitable spirit of women. Emerging from the heart of North Carolina, she defied the constraints of her time, shattering glass ceilings and becoming both an aviatix and a successful businesswoman. Her journey, captured in the captivating book "North Carolina Aviatix Viola Gentry: The Flying Cashier," invites us to rediscover the life of an extraordinary woman who dared to dream big.

## **Chapter 1: The Cashier with Wings**



## North Carolina Aviatrix, Viola Gentry: The Flying

**Cashier** by Jennifer Bean Bower

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 5616 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 195 pages  
Lending : Enabled



Viola Gentry was born in 1918, in the rural town of Mount Airy, North Carolina. From a young age, she displayed a keen interest in aviation, often gazing longingly at the airplanes that flew overhead. However, in a society where women were expected to conform to traditional roles, pursuing her passion seemed like an impossible dream.

Undeterred, Viola worked as a cashier at a local drugstore, saving every penny she earned. In her spare time, she voraciously read books on aviation and spent hours studying aeronautical maps. Little did she know that her humble beginnings as a cashier would soon pave the way for an extraordinary flight.

## **Chapter 2: Soaring to New Heights**



In 1942, as the United States entered World War II, Viola's dreams took flight. Inspired by the contributions of women pilots in the war effort, she enrolled in a flight training program. With unwavering determination, she mastered the art of flying, earning her pilot's license in 1943.

Viola's exceptional flying skills and infectious enthusiasm quickly caught the attention of the aviation community. She became a certified flight instructor

and later established her own flight school, where she trained aspiring pilots, both men and women.

### **Chapter 3: Breaking Barriers in Business**



Beyond her accomplishments in aviation, Viola Gentry also made her mark as a businesswoman. Recognizing the need for a local airport, she Free

Downloaded land and founded the Mount Airy Airport, which became a vital transportation hub for the community.

Viola's entrepreneurial spirit did not end there. She also owned and operated a successful hardware store and a restaurant, demonstrating her versatility and unwavering determination to succeed.

## **Chapter 4: A Legacy of Inspiration**



Throughout her life, Viola Gentry remained a passionate advocate for women's empowerment and the pursuit of dreams. She served as a mentor to countless young people, encouraging them to embrace their aspirations and break down barriers.

Viola's legacy extends far beyond her own accomplishments. She inspired generations of women to challenge societal norms and pursue careers in aviation and other traditionally male-dominated fields.

### **Epilogue: A Flight into History**



Viola Gentry's extraordinary journey came to an end in 2012, but her spirit continues to soar. In recognition of her pioneering contributions, a statue of Viola was erected in her hometown of Mount Airy, serving as a lasting reminder of her indomitable spirit.

The book "North Carolina Aviatrix Viola Gentry: The Flying Cashier" not only chronicles Viola's remarkable life but also serves as a testament to the transformative power of determination and the boundless potential that lies within each of us. By unveiling the story of this trailblazing woman, we are inspired to dream audaciously and to strive for greatness, regardless of the challenges we may face.

### Additional Resources:

- Women Breaking Barriers: Viola Gentry
- Viola Gentry: The Flying Cashier
- Viola Gentry's Grave



## North Carolina Aviatrix, Viola Gentry: The Flying

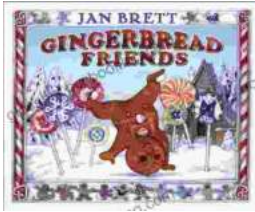
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