

# Gordon Bethune

## Quotes

*Airplane, People, Want, Aviation, Thinking, Watches, Airline, Successful, Waste, Team, Sound, Judging, Pilots, Records, Airline Business, Track, Stupid People, Safety, Three, Speed*

Do you know how much faster I can fix an airplane when I want to fix it than when I don't want to fix it?

~Gordon Bethune

You don't lie to your own doctor. You don't lie to your own attorney, and you don't lie to your employees.

~Gordon Bethune

Somebody who knows what they're doing, who has a good track record, they come across as very articulate, bright and looking for a challenge - that's absolutely my kind of hire.

~Gordon Bethune

The airline business is the biggest team sport in the world. When you're all consumed with fighting among yourselves, your opponents can run over you every day.

~Gordon Bethune

It's the old adage: You can make a pizza so cheap, nobody will eat it. You can make an airline so cheap, nobody will fly it.

~Gordon Bethune

Watches are the only jewelry men can wear, unless you're Mr. T.

~Gordon Bethune

It all sounds almost silly, but the fact is that the only way to change a corporate culture is to just change it.

~Gordon Bethune

Most businesses fail because they want the right things but measure the wrong things, and they get the wrong results.

~Gordon Bethune

If you say three things in a row that make sense, people will vote for

you.

~Gordon Bethune

Every pilot thinks they're the best pilot in the world. I think I'm the best pilot.

~Gordon Bethune

There are a lot of parallels between what we're doing and an expensive watch. It's very complex, has a lot of parts and it only has value when it's predictable and reliable.

~Gordon Bethune

I was a mechanic in the Navy. And mechanics in the Navy are like mechanics in airlines. You may have more stripes than I do, but you don't know how to fix the airplane.

~Gordon Bethune

It's difficult to have everybody like everything you do. I don't know anybody that's perfect and doesn't have a zit somewhere.

~Gordon Bethune

We tax air passengers like cigarettes and alcohol - we impose sin taxes on travellers.

~Gordon Bethune

It's like telling Mozart that there are too many notes in an opera. Which one do you want us to take out?

~Gordon Bethune

In airplanes you have a choice between chocolate and vanilla. One year could be vanilla or it could be chocolate. I don't attach any relevance to which one.

~Gordon Bethune

We're a stupid industry led by stupid people.

~Gordon Bethune

It's not a testosterone-driven industry any longer. Success is making money, not in the size of the airline.

~Gordon Bethune

The substitute for knowledge is money.

~Gordon Bethune

A bankruptcy judge can fix your balance sheet, but he cannot fix your company.

~Gordon Bethune

No one is going to stick their head out of the trenches for someone they don't respect or trust. You can get shot doing that.

~Gordon Bethune

You have to begin to put the infrastructure in place to put in high-speed trains...It should be a national priority. If the French can do it, why cant we?

~Gordon Bethune

The first step to problem solving is figuring out who's got the problem.

~Gordon Bethune

You're only as good as your dumbest competitor.

~Gordon Bethune

Whether I'm at the hangar or at the airport or on an airplane, I get respect. And that's the best part of my day.

~Gordon Bethune

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