John Roncz began his aeronautical career by building a computer and then adapting a NASA airfoil analysis code to run on it. He spent months learning airfoil theory and comparing computer predictions to wind tunnel tests. When Burt Rutan heard of his work he asked John to analyze some airfoil candidates for his Solitaire sailplane. John sent him the results for these along with some of his own airfoil designs for comparison. Burt chose the Roncz airfoil section, which worked very well. This led to a collaboration which lasted over 20 years, in which Burt developed configurations and John analyzed the stability and designed custom airfoil sections for each airplane.

John is responsible for some portion of over 50 aircraft designs. The most recent to fly is the Icon A5, an amphibious Light Sport Aircraft. He was responsible for the aerodynamic design and performance of the GlobalFlyer, a radical jet in which Steve Fossett recently set 3 world records. It was the second airplane John worked on that was placed in the National Air & Space Museum. He has designed sixteen propellers and wind turbines, including the propellers for the globe-circling Voyager and the prototype Starship.

Venturing outside the aircraft field, he designed the radical wing-sailed catamaran which successfully defended the America's Cup in 1988, and a winning WSC class race car. John was profiled in *Air & Space* magazine, published by the Smithsonian. He wrote twelve articles for *Sport Aviation*, and has guest lectured at eight Universities, including being honored as an "Old Master" by Purdue University. Among his awards are the Stanley Dzik memorial trophy, the Honor Roll of Professional Pilot magazine, the Medal of Achievement from Sailing World magazine, the Professor August Raspet award, and the Milwaukee School of Engineering Gold Medal. John served as a "Distinguished Lecturer" for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. In November 2000 he was honored by His Royal Highness Prince Philip at a ceremony in London, where he was presented with the Prince's Australian Medal for the design of the Eagle.

John is an honors graduate of the University of Notre Dame, an artist, and a classical pianist. He holds a commercial pilot's license with multi-engine, instrument and glider ratings and has logged over 1800 hours.