



# Who's Who of Ballooning

By Ecbert Eecks

**CRAIG, James**      USA      (1928?      (GB/HB)  
See APPENDIX-BH/BI/BS.      Professional balloonist. Pioneer hot-air  
balloonist.

No relation to balloonist of same era, George Craig of Iowa.

b: 1 Oct.1930 Rodgers, ID; Son of Aviation pioneer (Idaho).

p: Balloonist, ONR-China Lake, 1960-80; Weapons development; Engineer for  
paper company, 1980+.

f: First B-Flight (HB) Nov.1963 w/E. YOST from Souix Falls (SD); First B-Solo  
16 Dec.1963 from the Stratobowl (SD); Received his FAA-Balloon License the  
same day; More than 750 hours in (HB) balloons by 1972 (most were tethered  
platforms at China Lake, CA).

l: 1964, Winner of Second National HB Championship (Reno, NV); 1965,  
Winner of Third National HB Championship (Stead, NV); 1966, Placed Fourth  
in Jean Piccard Trophy Race (St.Paul, MN); 1966, Winner of Speedway  
Trophy Race (Indianapolis, IN); 1966, Winner of Reno/Stead Trophy Race;  
1967, Participated in Jean Piccard Trophy Race (St.Paul,MN); 1967,  
Participated Aerial Tramway Race (Palm Springs, CA); 1967, Placed Fourth in  
Speedway Trophy Race (Indianapolis,IN). \*\*\*Epic flight 1 Nov.1974 from  
Ridgecrest CA, to New Mexico for project "DaVinci" (details unknown).

a: P.O. Box 810; Newport, WA 99156; 509/292-2635. (Ref.E.Yost 1987).

r: Tel-con Nov.1991.