



Who's Who of Ballooning

By Ecbert Fecks

ANDERSON, Maxie Leroy USA (1934-1983) K (HB/GB)

See APPENDIX-B/I/BB/BC/BJ/BL/BN/BQ. Sport balloonist.

FIRST to cross Atlantic Ocean.

b: 10 Sep.1933, Sayre, OK;

d: 26 Jun.1983, Germany;

Father of Kristian; Resident of Albuquerque, NM; Lost sight in right eye, due to a football injury; sometimes wore a black eye patch while flying.

e: Missouri Military Academy; considered "All-round athlete."

p: Mining Company Owner; Amassed considerable wealth.

f: Airplane pilot since age 14; FAA-SEL license 1959 (at age 15); MEL/Instrument; owned his own airplanes; First B-Flight 1972 with Sid CUTTER; First B-Solo from Alb., NM (after one hour, on the same day), FAA B-License 1972; More than 300 B-Hours (500-TT), incl. 25 gas flights, by 1983.

l: 1973, Participated in "Bahamas to Florida" race.

h: 1978: U.S.Congressional Gold Medal of Achievement; FAA-Aviation Medal; National Geographic Gold Medal; French Sports Medal; French Grand Aviation Medal. 1979: FAI-Montgolfier Award. ***Epic flight 9 Sep.1977(W/ABRUZZO) in "Double Eagle." TransAtlantic attempt covered 2950 miles in 64 hours, ending in an Ocean rescue near Iceland on 12 September. ***Epic flight 11 Aug.1978(W/ABRUZZO & NEWMAN) from Presque Isle, ME in "Double Eagle-2." Successful 3001 Sm. TransAtlantic flight in 137:06, landing at Missery (near Paris FRA) on 17 August. ***Epic flight 8 May 1980 (W/K.ANDERSON) from Ft.Baker, CA. TransContinental flight covered 3120 Sm., landed near Matane, Quebec. ***Epic flight 12 Feb.1981 (W/IDA) from Luxor, Egypt in "Jules Verne." TransWorld attempt was aborted over Murchpur, India after 2673 Sm. in 47:30. Second TransWorld attempt 22 Dec.1981 from Jai pur, India. Flight was aborted after near Rattal, India, after two hours due to mechanical problems. Third TransWorld attempt Nov.1983 from Stratobowl, ND, was aborted over Eastern Canada. ***Epic flight 26 Jun.1981 (W/IDA) from The "Place de Concorde" Paris, in "America-III." The flight as participants in the G-Bennett B-Race ended in tragedy 25 nm. NW of Schweinfurt, Germany. Preliminary reports indicate a delayed-response release of the gondola from the envelope, killing both pilots on impact.

r: BM; EB-101; Tel-Con D.Rice; Tel-Con Kris; NT-28 Jun.1983/B8; NT-Dec.1978, Apr.1982, Dec.1983