

WALIGUNDA, Robert Leroy

USA

(1945?

(HB)

See APPENDIX-BI/BL.

Professional balloonist. (Bio-data unknown)

e: University unknown, Springfield. MA.

p: Owner of B-Enterprises, Princeton, NJ; Raven / Aerostar Balloon dealer; Repair Station.

f: First B-Flight 1965 (date & w/who unknown).

I: Co-Author (w/L.Sheehan) of: "Great American Balloon Book"; Director of "Great American B-Races (Philadelphia); Staged balloon portions of Woody Allen movies.

m: BFA Life member since 1970. ***Epic flight early 1970's from a barge off San Francisco (CA) over the Golden Gate Bridge. ***Epic flight early 1970s from the North Rim. FIRST to cross the Grand Canyon by balloon. Flew from the North to South rim. NOTE: see J.Wingad-1978 for first crossing South to North. ***Epic flight early 1970s (details unknown). Landed in the Gulf of Mexico. ***Epic flight early 1970s (details unknown) Experienced burner flame-out in flight. Lost 3 fingers in the superpressure fan while trying to relight the burner.

a: Sky Manor Airport Box-54, Pittstown, NJ 08867.

r: Publishers Weekly 9 Oct.1981p6.