



The AMA History Project Presents: Autobiography of JAMES E. CLINE 1929 – 2009



Written by AMA Staff (02/2010); Reformatted by JS (03/2010)

The following was published in the February 2010 issue of Model Aviation magazine.

James E. Cline 1929-2009

James Edward Cline, 80, of Alpha, Ohio, passed away peacefully with his loving family around him on November 9, 2009.

He left behind his wife, Ruby Cline, whom he married September 4, 1988; a son, Russell Adrian Cline of Xenia, Ohio; a daughter, Vicki Jo Clark of Xenia, Ohio; four stepchildren, Gloria (Brent) Mayfield of Centerville, Ohio; Ruby (Dennis) Zemler of Tampa, Florida; Carl Coates of Clearwater, Florida; and David Coates of Xenia, Ohio. Jim is also survived by 15 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. He also leaves behind many friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, John Elwood Cline; mother, Edna Miller Cline; and one son, Jeffrey Cline.

Jim was a Master Mason, and the Freemasons was an organization of which he was very proud to be a part. He served in the Air Force during the Korean War and retired from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base after a career as a technical engineer.

Jim was a model airplane lover, builder, and flier since the age of 12. After retirement, he invented, designed, and built a fuel controller system sold all over the world under his company's name, Cline & Associates. Combining his vocation with his avocation, he came up with the device that would permit the fuel supply to remain stable at any attitude.

The Cline Fuel System (CFS) was developed, the company was organized, and the CFS first offered for sale in 1993. The system was popular in the Tournament of Champions the year it came out.

Today more than 40,000 systems are in use in the United States as well as many other countries.

In addition to being used in model airplane engines, some novel uses have cropped up for the CFS. They are used in helicopters, boards and, in at least one instance, in ink delivery systems. They have been tested by universities for various other purposes.

Jim was a friendly, helpful person. He rarely met anyone he didn't like or who didn't like him.

He will be greatly missed by his family, his friends, and his community.

This PDF is property of the Academy of Model Aeronautics. Permission must be granted by the AMA History Project for any reprint or duplication for public use.

AMA History Project
National Model Aviation Museum
5151 E. Memorial Dr.
Muncie IN 47302
(765) 287-1256, ext. 511
historyproject@modelaircraft.org

