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# The AMA History Project Presents: Autobiography of DAVID P. ANDERSEN

Born April 25, 1940      Started modeling in 1947

AMA #16331



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Written and Submitted by DA (10/1997); Updated (07/2002); Transcribed and Edited by SS (06/2002) and updated by JS (12/2005)

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## **Career:**

- 1962-: Active member of the Twin City Radio Controllers; has served as president and vice president
- First Minnesota pilot to qualify for the League of Silent Flight (182<sup>nd</sup> worldwide)
- Co-founder and original performer in the Blue Eagles air show team
- Co-founder of the Scale Flyers of Minnesota
- Current secretary and newsletter editor of the Scale Flyers of Minnesota, Inc.
- Frequently a contest director and event director
- Articles published in Model Aviation, Scale RC Modeler and RC Modeler magazines
- Had 14 published Radio Controlled designs
- 2000-: Top Gun Flight Judge

## **Honors:**

- 1978: Winner of the Walt Billett Award
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- Retired design engineer, Lockheed Martin
- Began modeling in the late 1940s, flying Free Flight and Control Line models.
- Entered first AMA contest in 1952, flying a Jasco Floater towline glider.
- Assembled first Radio Control set from a schematic found in a library book.
- Active member of the Twin City Radio Controllers since 1962.
- First pilot in Minnesota to qualify for the League of Silent Flight; 182 worldwide.
- Former president and vice president of the Twin City Radio Controllers.
- Co-founder of and original performer in the Blue Eagles air show team.
- Winner of the Walt Billett Award in 1978. This trophy now resides in the National Model Aviation Museum.
- Current secretary and newsletter editor of the Scale Flyers of Minnesota, Inc., a special interest group that co-sponsors scale events in collaboration with local RC clubs. Co-founded in 1984.
- Frequent contest director and event director.
- Frequent competitor in Scalemasters, AMA Nationals (Nats), Toledo Expo and local flying events. Fourth place in designer scale at the 2001 AMA Nats.
- Top Gun Flight Judge since 2000.
- Author of many articles and stories published in Model Aviation, Scale RC Modeler and RC Modeler magazines.

- Author of 14 published RC designs ranging from open-class sailplanes to giant scale. Ten of these designs have appeared on the covers of these magazines.
- Latest design: “ARADO 96B” in the May and June 2002 issues of RC Modeler magazine.
- Lifetime ambition: to fly an exact scale model of the original Wright Flyer.

*(signed) David P. Andersen  
July 20, 2002*

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