



# The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of CHARLES H. (HANK) STUMPE



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Written by HS (c. 2003); Transcribed, reformatted and edited by JS (05/2010)

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*The following is an autobiography excerpt from the publication "Who's Who in AMA, 2003, District V."*

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I was born in 1928 in Greenwich, Connecticut, and moved to New York City in 1933. I built dime kits, both solid and stick models. My first airplane to fly was a *Puss Moth* by Consolidated Models. My largest rubber model was a Korda Wakefield in 1940.

About a year later, I bought a used Brown Junior motor from an older boy in the neighborhood and built my first gas job, a thermal magnet by Bay Ridge Models. I joined the Prop Spinners Club in Forrest Hills, and flew with them in many contests in the New York/ New Jersey/ Connecticut area.

After two years in the Army, I went to California to attend the Northrup Institute of Technology, and after completion went to work for Douglas Aircraft. I flew mostly U-Control, Stunt, and Free Flight during the late 1940s and early 1950s. In 1953, I moved back to New York, working for Republic Aviation and Grumman as a design engineer.

In 1957, I got the Radio Control bug and built an Ace transmitter and a Lorenz 2 tube receiver, which I flew in the deBolt LiveWire *Champ*. These early Radio Control models sometimes flew better when the radio was not working.

During the 1980s and 1990s, I designed several Radio Control models that were published as magazine construction articles, three of them in *Model Aviation*.

I retired from Grumman in 1988 and moved to Florida. I am a member of the R/SEA Hawks in Cape Coral, Florida, where I fly Sport Radio Control, Old Timers, and some Combat.

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

