



# The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of GERALD (GERRY) O. DENEAU

January 10, 1925 – October 10, 2001

AMA #9350



Submitted by EHS (9/2005); Transcribed & Edited by JS (11/2005)

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The following short biography of Gerald (Gerry) Deneau was compiled from information given by Eyvinn Schoenberg's *Plane Talk: Cessna Export Tales* (2004).

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Gerry was an avid Control Line modeler. He competed in C/L Scale and C/L Navy Carrier events. He worked as a Pawnee Plane Administrative Engineer at Cessna. At this time, he met lifelong friend Eyvinn Schoenberg at a Cessna Model Club meeting. They met the night the club introduced using plastic Royalite sheets to create custom Cessna scale models.

Outside of class, Gerry and Eyvinn built an R6-B using this newly learned technique and wrote an article about the design, *The Marvel of Royalite* (Model Airplane News, February 1959). After writing the article, the two formed a company-of-sorts, called "Serco Imports." They sold Royalite sheets, plans, and glue for others to build the R6-B. Their original model was later donated to the National Model Aviation Museum in 1989.

During Gerry's time at Cessna, he joined what came to be known as the Jeppesen Private Pilot Training Course. Gerry advertised the course using his graphic-design and writing skills, which helped promote him to Vice President of the Jeppesen division's Education department. He enjoyed working at Cessna and wrote a book about his experiences there, *Eyes to the Sky*.

Gerry retired to Sierra Vista, Arizona with his wife, Billie, and was laid to rest in 2001.

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Please contact the History Project at [historyproject@modelaircraft.org](mailto:historyproject@modelaircraft.org) if you would like to add your own story about Gerald Deneau.

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