

In Memoriam

CARLIN W. BRINKMANN, SR.

It is with deep regret that we report the death of Carl Brinkmann, U. S. Diamond Badge #24, who passed away on September 25 after a long illness. Born in Pocatello, Idaho, fifty years ago, his passing leaves a void filled with an image larger than life to those who knew, admired, respected, and loved him. Our saddened hearts are comforted by his legacy of good spirit, cheerful attitude, and tremendous courage.

Carl's contribution to SSA was a crown piece that fitted on the Gold-badge pin, enlarging the area and providing a place for the Diamonds. This was developed in his machine shop with the usual Brinkmann enthusiasm. It is an SSA inventory item.

Carl was introduced to soaring through the interest of his son, Bill, in 1960. He joined the Antelope Valley Soaring Club and was a past president of that organization. With the purchase of a 1-23H in 1962, a father and son flying team was formed. And did they have fun! Bill set a California State Junior Altitude Record while acquiring his Gold badge and Diamonds; Carl flew in the Sierra Wave at Tehachapi reaching 32,000 feet to acquire his altitude Diamond.

It was on a beautiful summer day in June 1963, that Carl chased the cumulus clouds from El Mirage, California, to Williams, Arizona, to complete his Diamond badge. This was a wonderful achievement and a personal triumph for a man with an artificial leg. At one point during this flight, Carl became extremely low over the hot, hostile, rugged, desolate, and remote part of Northern Arizona. He was compelled to navigate a winding canyon seeking lower elevations from which he was able to locate a thermal and regain sufficient altitude to retrace his course. Had he been forced to land in such an area, he certainly would have been in serious trouble due to his impairment. An artificial limb was not a handicap to Carl; the handicap was in other men's minds. Carl's outlook was positive. This was a challenge. An opportunity to accomplish a task considered difficult for the whole man. Carl had faith in the human soul and God.

At the recent awards dinner for the 1966 Southern California Regional Soaring Championships, the

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Third Place Perpetual Trophy was donated in his memory. It will be known as the Brinkmann Memorial Trophy. His great interest in soaring will thus be remembered.

Many members of S. C. S. A. were his close personal friends and on several occasions, he attended meetings as a guest. He shall be missed . . . he shall be . . . he shall.

—EARL J. SEAGARS

1966 SSA State Governors

Changes to the list of SSA State Governors appointed through the year 1966, last given on page 2 of

the May, 1965, issue of *Soaring*, with a supplement on page 32 of the March, 1966, issue, are as follows:

ALABAMA—None.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Joe H. Giltner, Jr., P.O. Box 134; Chester, S.C. 29706.

FLORIDA—Richard W. A. Davis, P.O. Box 925, Palm Beach, Fla. 33482.

The four states for which there are no SSA State Governors are Alabama, Alaska, Mississippi, and Montana.