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## **Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Armor, Robert J.**

Extracted on Apr-17-2024 06:20:19

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exhibition work with relief by Armor when necessary. Since Armor was still retaining his connection with Texaco, this plan was necessary. While these plans were in process business matters forced cancellation of the entire venture.

Armor continued to do some flying that year at St. Louis, Missouri, and became a member of the Aero Club there. He joined the Aero Club of Illinois in 1912 and remained with Texaco until he formed Armor Auto Company, Inc., ~~incorporated~~ at Houston, Texas, in 1916, selling Ford cars. He was president and manager of this business until 1936.

During World War I Armor volunteered for pilot duty with the U.S. Naval Reserve Flying Corps and was given flying tests at Stinson Flying School, San Antonio, Texas. He was later sent to Massachusetts Institute of Technology for preparatory instruction, then transferred to the Naval Air Base at Pensacola, Florida, where he remained until the Armistice when he returned to his automobile business.

In 1929 Armor took a ~~refresher~~ refresher flying course with the Texas Air Transport Company at Houston and secured ~~his~~ his private flying License No. 8863. That year he became Sales Manager for Curtiss-Wright Flying Service at Houston and remained in that position through 1930. While he was with Curtiss-Wright, the firm engaged extensively in crop dusting throughout the southern cotton belt.

In 1931 Armor became Executive Vice-President, Treasurer-Director of Morrison Securities, handling investments, real estate and insurance, ~~where~~ and he remained with the firm until 1940. From 1944 to 1953 he was Liaison Officer-Inspector-Examiner for the United States Government.

From 1954-1955 he was on the staff of Rice Institute, then from 1957 through 1958 he served in the same capacity for Jones College Rice Institute. He did his last flying in 1941, flying an Ercoupe monoplane strictly for pleasure. He was a member of the Early Birds, Masonic Order and American Legion. Mr. Armor passed away October 3, 1972, at Laguna Hills, California, survived by his wife, one daughter and two sons.

Flying Pioneer, Early Bird Robert J. Armor was one of the ~~early~~ first students of the Wright Brothers flying school. While he did not make aviation his lifetime work and flew but a short time, he is nevertheless a noteworthy figure in early American aviation history.

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