



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives

Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Merrill, Albert A.

Extracted on Apr-16-2024 09:40:26

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

and powered aircraft were built and tested, the flying being done by Early Bird A. W. Claverie. Whenever these experimental craft were flown at public events the performance always brought "gasps of wonder" from the audience. Merrill reportedly financed this research personally from the earnings of some of his inventions.

After this project was terminated Merrill returned to Caltech where he remained until his retirement. During his last period at the Institute he built several wind tunnels for specific projects, one a subsonic type which was named "The Merrill Tunnel" in his honor on August 31st, 1950.

After gradually failing health Merrill passed away on June 1st, 1952 at his home in Pasadena, California at age 77. He was survived by his wife, and interment was private. He was a lover of music and was an accomplished violinist for many years until deafness prevented him from playing.

Pioneer aviation enthusiast and professional aerodynamicist Albert A. Merrill devoted his entire lifetime to the promotion of aviation. An eminent professor also engaged in aeronautic research, he left his mark on American aviation history. While he did very little flying his name appears on the Wright Memorial Plaque at Dayton as having graduated from the historic Wright Flying School.

[[stamp]]
FROM THE FLYING PIONEERS BIOGRAPHIES OF HAROLD E.
MOREHOUSE
[[/stamp]]

3

and powered aircraft were built and tested, the flying being done by Early Bird A. W. Claverie. Whenever these experimental craft were flown at public events the performance always brought "gasps of wonder" from the audience. Merrill reportedly financed this research personally from the earnings of some of his inventions.

After this project was terminated Merrill returned to Caltech where he remained until his retirement. During his last period at the Institute he built several wind tunnels for specific projects, one a subsonic type which was named "The Merrill Tunnel" in his honor on August 31st, 1950.

After gradually failing health Merrill passed away on June 1st, 1952 at his home in Pasadena, California at age 77. He was survived by his wife, and interment was private. He was a lover of music and was an accomplished violinist for many years until deafness prevented him from playing.

Pioneer aviation enthusiast and professional aerodynamicist Albert A. Merrill devoted his entire lifetime to the promotion of aviation. An eminent professor also engaged in aeronautic research, he left his mark on American aviation history. While he did very little flying his name appears on the Wright Memorial Plaque at Dayton as having graduated from the historic Wright Flying School.

FROM THE
FLYING PIONEERS BIOGRAPHIES
OF HAROLD E. MOREHOUSE

Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Merrill, Albert A.
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Apr-16-2024 09:40:26



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)