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Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Schriver, Todd "Slim"

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About May 20th Schriver was back at Mineola well pleased with his foreign tour, during which he had a lot of flying without an accident. He flew actively at Mineola through June, then later that fall began flying exhibitions again. On September 6th he started a weeks engagement at the Erie County Fair, Buffalo, New York, and on September 21st, while flying at Batavia, New York, had an accident breaking a leg. This laid him up until mid-November when he left for Puerto Rico for an exhibition tour. He was still flying for Baldwin and using a Baldwin plane. Also on this tour were Peter McLaughlin, Manager, and George Schmidt, another Baldwin aviator. Schriver was killed on December 2, 1911, at Ponce, near San Juan, Puerto Rico, when he lost control at 200 feet, fell into a cane field, and died on the way to the hospital. He was still using crutches when he left New York, and they had planned to travel to South America for the winter season.

At 38 years of age he was survived by his wife. His body was returned to Manchester, Ohio, for burial. Well-known and highly respected in aviation circles everywhere, his flying seemed to be plagued by hard luck.

Flying Pioneer Todd Schriver was one of the very first of the self-taught crop of early American aviators who helped forge the first days of aviation development. A showman at heart he gambled on that first adventuresome period of flying and lost. While he did not live to accomplish what he undoubtedly had planned to do, his name must not be forgotten in the records of early American aviation history.

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