

Roosevelt Hall of Fame

University of Minnesota, B.S. Aeronautical Engineering



Robert Apgar Champine

Class of 1939

- Loved flying, both real and model airplanes, his entire life.
- Served as one of America's supersonic test-pilot pioneers, flying some of the fastest, most exotic aircraft of the day.
- Left a legacy in design and performance of all future commercial and military aircraft.
- Served in WWII as a naval aviator.
- Flew for the Navy, NACA (early NASA), and NASA for 36 years, from 1943 to 1979.
- Flew as a private pilot for 56 years, from 1939 to his last flight in 1995.
- Flew over 155 different types of airplanes and accumulated 11,300 flight hours, 1.3 years in the air!
- Was an enthusiastic model airplane designer, builder, flyer, club leader and official.
- Elected to Virginia Aviation Hall of Fame in 1979.
- Selected as Elder Statesman of the National Aeronautics Association in 2001.
- Elected to the Model Airplane Hall of Fame.

Inducted September 27, 2014