

Widow of 'first spaceman' Kincheloe Jr. recalls husband

The **South Bend Tribune** has a interview with Dorothy Kincheloe. It's nice to see Dorothy and the family remembered 50 year later!

Print/save the article now – they only stay up for a week or so.

April 29th, 2010 | Category: [Iven Kincheloe, X-2](#) | **Comments are closed**

Air Trails Pictorial 1950

Just added a new photo to the **Toward The Unknown/XB-51 Gallery** thanks to Doug Nelson: The cover of the April 1950 Air Trails Pictorial magazine with a pretty ominous XB-51. Looks more like something from Germany in WWII!

Update: **Hank Caruso** was kind enough to share that the artist of the magazine cover was Frank Tinsley (1899-1965). More of Frank's art can be seen on **Flickr**.



April 8th, 2010 | Category: [XB-51](#) | **Comments are closed**

Capt. Thomas Stratton

Does the name ring a "bell" at all? He's the X-2 pilot from the Quantum Leap X-2 episode. Jon Goto recently sent me a closeup of the X-2 mockup with the Captain's name stenciled on it. The photo has been added to the **Photo Album**.

April 7th, 2010 | Category: [Quantum Leap, X-2](#) | **Comments are closed**

Kincheloe Vs. White

OK, this frosts me a bit. The **South Bend Tribune** recently ran an article about Iven Kincheloe and Robert White, but I just four out they only keep stories online for a week. Here's a blurb I was able to grab from **CollectSpace.com**:

Who was the first man in space?

Cassopolis residents are likely to say it was Iven Kincheloe Jr., a Cassopolis native who in 1956 set a new altitude record when he flew a research plane 126,200 feet — nearly 24 miles — above the Earth. Kincheloe was quoted as saying that at the peak of his Bell X-2 research plane's trajectory, he was weightless...

"At the time, he was declared the first spaceman. It was a big deal," recalled Steve Arseneau, director of the Southwestern Michigan College Museum in Dowagiac.

So it was something of a surprise recently when news accounts of the death in Orlando, Fla., of Robert White, 85, identify him as the first man to fly a winged craft into space.

If you have a full version of the story, please leave a comment!

April 7th, 2010 | Category: [Iven Kincheloe, X-2](#) | **Comments are closed**

Robert A. Rohrer

Sad news to pass along – I recently learned that Robert A. Rohrer **passed away January 18**. Bob was a friend of the Web site offering a number of his never before seen color X-2 and Toward the Unknown photos for the site. Bob was a pleasure to work with and I always enjoyed swapping emails with him. He will be missed!

Bio | X-2 Photos | Behind The Scenes, Toward The Unknown Photos



March 20th, 2010 | Category: [Edwards AFB](#), [Movies](#), [Toward The Unknown](#), [X-2](#) | **Comments are closed**

Field Trip

Read about **my visit to the X-2 crash site** this past October.



January 9th, 2010 | Category: [Edwards AFB, X-2](#) | [Comments are closed](#)

And Not Just the X-2

I'm having too much fun with the [Life magazine image search](#). Case in point: every photographic angle of [Bill Bridgeman](#).



December 28th, 2009 | Category: [Bill Bridgeman](#) | Comments are closed

New Life Magazine X-2 Pics

It looks like *Life* magazine continues to scan their collection of photos. I just completed a [search for X-2](#) and ran into some new pictures, many also from their Air Age story. In addition to the X-2, it looks like new photos of Pete Everest, Iven Kincheloe, Fitz Fulton, program members & more are appearing.



December 28th, 2009 | Category: [Edwards AFB, Iven Kincheloe, Pete Everest, X-2](#) | [Comments are closed](#)

New X-2 Mockup Photos

Thanks to J. Goto for sending over some great photos of the X-2 mockup used in the television show [Quantum Leap](#).

Photos #1 and 2

The pics are from October 1994 at the [Planes of Fame Museum](#) in Chino, CA. The mockup is still there today, but in pretty bad condition.

November 5th, 2009 | Category: [Quantum Leap, X-2](#) | [Comments are closed](#)

Technical Review of the X-2: Now Available

Finding good, technical details of the X-2 is difficult, but that has changed. Edward Williams has self-published a booklet with plenty of photos, drawings, and schematics to make X fans happy. The publication is an update of Bell's own X-2 Technical Review from the 50s.

You can purchase the 41 page book online or download/print yourself (my option) [via Lulu.com](#).

November 4th, 2009 | Category: [X-2](#) | [Comments are closed](#)

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