

## C-46F 1/13/1959

Claude Monaghan, pilot of Curtiss C-46F N1240N, and his co-pilot, Forrest Kimball were killed instantly when their cargo aircraft struck cloud enshrouded Panther Peak on January 13, 1959. The C-46F had been in route from Burbank, CA to Seattle, WA where a load of printing equipment was to be picked up. The crash site is located Sequoia Kings Canyon National Park. The wreck remained undisturbed for several years until a salvager was permitted to remove most of the remaining material in the late 1960's. During the summer of 1959 Bobbi Gant, daughter of the pilot, and other family members hiked to the crash site to pay their respects. Bobbi found her beloved father's shaving kit. Claude Monaghan was forty-one at the time of his death. He had served with distinction in the Royal Canadian Air Force during WWII.



The smashed remains of Curtiss C-46F N124N as seen in early September 1965, with Jerry Boal standing alongside. (Photo by G.P. Macha)



Claude Monaghan, seen relaxing with his legs crossed on Christmas Day 1958, nineteen days before his death. His friend, and co-pilot Forrest Kimball sits next to him. The two men had high hopes of running an air freight business together. (Photo courtesy Bobbi Gant)

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