

Jim Chamberlain

(from a telephone conversation between Frank Brame and Tim McShane, July 5, 1999)

Mr. Brame's recollections of Jim Chamberlain were that he was a brilliant man who has not received the recognition due to him for his accomplishments in aviation. Mr. Chamberlain is remembered as a quiet, introverted man who hadn't much use for authority or organizational charts (making him perceived by some as difficult to work with) or paperwork (Mr. Brame's comments were essentially that "Jim might have the odd important memo stuck in a desk drawer somewhere, but other than that his desk was clear"). Mr. Chamberlain wasn't one to read reports; when he required information, he would sit on a desk corner of the person who was responsible for that information, and talk one-on-one with that person until he found out what he needed to know.

Following the cancellation of the Arrow project, Mr. Chamberlain joined NASA and worked under Bob Gilbrough (?) on the Gemini, Mercury and Apollo projects. He then went on to work for McDonnell-Douglas, perhaps at Huntsville, Alabama.

Mr. Brame has been campaigning to have Jim Chamberlain inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame, and to this end has been trying to track down Mr. Chamberlain's family. He has spoken with several Chamberlains in British Columbia (Jim Chamberlain was born in Kamloops, 1916; presumably he has family still in the area), but none of them knew Jim.