

**Harold (Hal) J. Burhop - 9RW - W9ZL - W8ZL \*1899-1971\*** Son of William and Louise Burhop Born in Sheboygan WI early spark amateur earned (9RW) in 1913. By 1916 Hal was a Marconi radio officer on the Great Lakes serving ship and short stations. A short U.S. Navy stint, a former employee U.S. Air Mail Service from 1923 until 1927.



For the remainder of Hal's career he became an Airways Operations Specialist under technical services and planning branch of the CAA, now known as the FAA.

The first time we became aware of Harold was in the early 60's when I was stationed in the Upper Peninsula at the Soo. Word had gotten around Mr. Burhop was residing close to town in the village of Dafter. He and his wife were vacation travelers and were enjoying retirement.

I didn't have an opportunity to meet Harold then and regret not having the chance. Still, in 2010 I ran across Harold's interesting QSL card in the K8CX collection. Tom 8CX has a gigantic collection and is kind enough to allow his files to be reviewed.

On the reverse side of the W8ZL QSL card Harold wrote; OTC QCWA OOTC CP35 RCC WAC WAS finally SOWP. There was a note stating he had earned 9ZL in Manitowoc WI., from 1919 until 1922. It is apparent W8ZL enjoyed his radio hobby.

We found Mr. Burhop's affiliation and membership with the Air Mail Pioneers Assoc., which has a very interesting file on the Internet. Lots of Air Mail history found there. There was a note of our subjects demise at the Soo June 15<sup>th</sup> 1971. RIP Harold and we appreciate your service to all and the many hours of pleasure on the air with the key. Survived by wife Inez and one daughter Gertrude. The Chief of CAA Radio Branch Chicago Office said; Hal a wonderful person with knowledge of Lake History and the "Lore of the Lakes" could keep one interested for hours.

If I recall correctly there was a lot of info about Harold's personal history in the Society of Wireless Pioneers journal out of the 50s and 60s. Hal succumbed to cancer and is buried in Sheboygan at Trinity Lutheran Cemetery. Thanks to Air Mail Pioneers data, OOTC records and K8CX QSL Ham Gallery dot com.



W8SU 2010 added 2012