

John Dawson Ransome *K3MBF-W2SAI* 1901–2002 - A native of Riverton N.J. Ransome served in the U.S. Army Air Force in World War II and later was chief executive officer for Ransome Airlines. On the Board of trustees of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and board member emeritus Experimental Aircraft Association. Along time ARRL official in many capacities.

In 1966 Dawson founded Ransome Airlines, the family's commuter airline business. The venture was born out of hard work, determination and his passion for aviation. Ransome Airlines was named "Commuter Airline of the Year" in 1980 by Air Transport World magazine and at the time was the largest commuter airline in the world.

Dawson was a consistent innovator creating several air transport and traffic control systems for use by the airline which were widely adopted and are still in use today.

Most notable is the separate access landing system or SALS, The SALS system allowed Ransome planes to navigate an efficient route to their destination and then land on the unused stub end of runways at busy airports saving time and fuel and increasing the overall capacity and efficiency of the airports and the Ransome operation.

Ransome Airlines served commuter passengers in the northeast United States with a perfect safety record before being sold to Pan Am in 1986.

J. Dawson as he liked to be called, was captain of the 1972 World Championship U.S. Aerobatics team. He also was a long time member of the Frankford Radio Club. Dawson was heard on the air from several exotic places including ZF1RD in Grand Cayman. Dawson is pictured when he operated his home station from K3MBF.



Dawson expired 9 Jan 2002 in Ocala Fla. He was 81, survivors include his wife, Maryann, five children; a brother Ernest L. Ransome III and three grandchildren. Partially scripted from ransomeairlines.com – w8su 2007 - Ebay QSL 2012