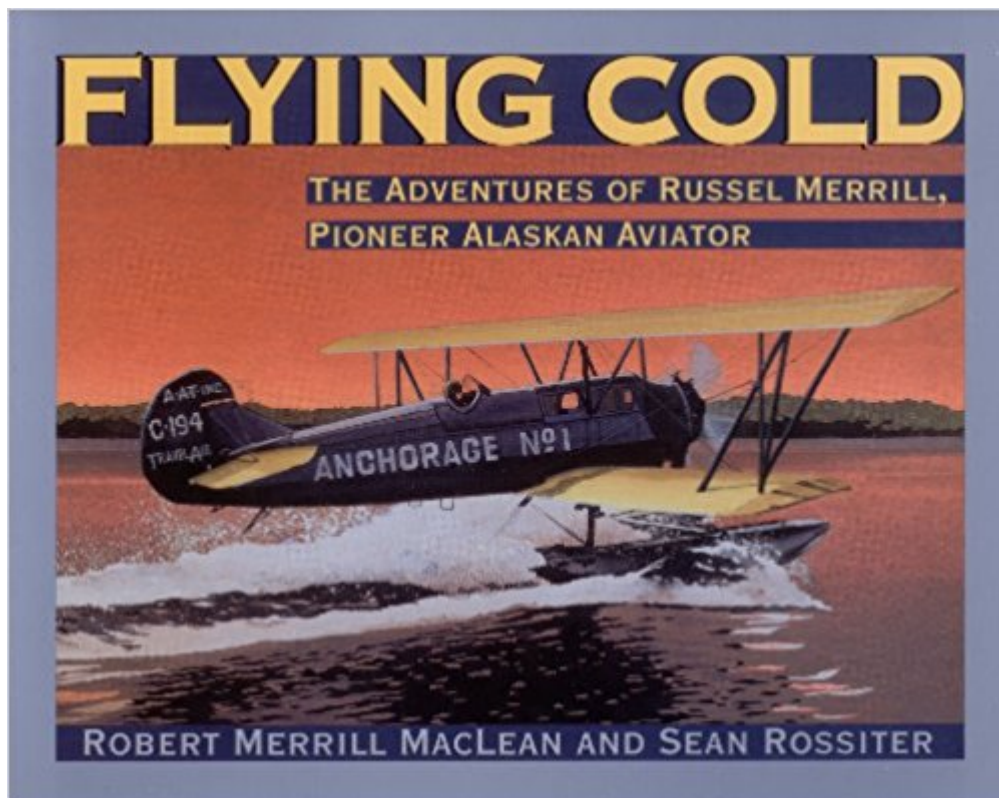




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Flying Cold: The Adventures Of Russel Merrill, Pioneer Alaskan Aviator



Synopsis

Chronicles Russel Merrill's daring 750-mile journey across the Gulf of Alaska in a flying boat with a single motor, his first rescue mission by air, crash-landings, and strandings.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Flying over uncharted mountain ranges, large bodies of water, and vast expanses of tundra, Russel Merrill was the space astronaut of his day . . . he brought aviation to Anchorage the same year Charles Lindberg flew the Atlantic." ----Ted Spencer, Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum
"In Flying Cold, authors Robert Merrill MacLean and Sean Rossiter have produced an outstanding volume to add to reader and collector shelves on the aviation history of Alaska." ----Robert W. Stevens, Author of Alaska Aviation History

Sean is the author of Legends of the Air (1990) which profiles 22 aircraft in Seattle's Museum of Flight and Flying Cold (1993), the biography of Alaska pioneer aviator Russell Merrill.

As historian for the Alaska Aviation Museum, I this biography is a well-written and indispensable addition to my reference library. It is the only definitive account of the life of Russ Merrill, for whom the busy Merrill Field in Anchorage was named.

Another Alaska bush flying pioneer gone west. Anchorage's Merrill Field was named for this intrepid

flier. Very well written.

A rather rare account of one of the early pilots of air-mad Alaska. Well done.

Quick super service, good book.! Good book reading

Heroic account of how Russell Hyde Merrill brought aviation to Anchorage Alaska. This book is a must read for pilots and anyone interested in Alaskan History and bush pilots. Merrill was an ex Navy pilot who was the first man to fly into Petersburg, Wrangell, Kodiak and Anchorage. He discovered Merrill Pass in the Alaska Range and put Anchorage on the map as the "Transportation Hub of Alaska" He brought aviation to Anchorage in 1927 the same year that Lindberg crossed the Atlantic. He faced incredible hardships and pioneered air routes all over Alaska that are still used today. He was a true hero and a very thoughtful and kind man whose mark on aviation and Alaska is still very evident even today. He was lost over Cook inlet on 9/16/29. He was never found, but it is evident he went down and perished in the frigid water off Tyonek Alaska. Merrill Field (very busy general aviation airport in Anchorage) and Merrill Pass (important pass to the west through the Alaska Range) bear his name. In Alaska we all stand on the shoulders of this great man.

Trained as a pilot during World War I, Russel Merrill was determined to spend his life flying. His love of flight lured him from Oregon to Alaska, the far frontier of aviation, where Merrill piloted the first airplanes to fly into Petersburg, Wrangell, Kodiak, and Anchorage. FLYING COLD chronicles Merrill's daring 750-mile journey across the Gulf of Alaska in a flying boat with a single small motor, his first rescue mission by air, crash landings, and strandings. In 1928, Merrill nearly died after being forced down in the Arctic, showing up weeks later, half dead, but still carrying a cup of rice he had saved for an "emergency." Many photos. A great read.

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