



NORMAN JULES MAYER Aerospace Engineer, retired. He was 98. Considered the "Dean of Airship Engineering" in North America, his professional career in the airship industry spanned 65 years of service to the private sector and government.

He graduated from the Academy of Aeronautics in Queens, New York in March 1941 and immediately began his career at the Goodyear-Zeppelin Corporation in Akron Ohio as a design, research and flight test engineer in Naval patrol airships. Following Goodyear, he worked for the U.S. Navy Bureau of Aeronautics in Washington, D.C. as an expert in lighter-than-air. He joined the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1961, managing research in space stations, lunar and planetary bases, orbiting telescopes and composite materials. While at NASA, he served as a consultant to the State Department and the World Bank on lighter than air systems.

He retired from the government in 1984 and continued to consult in lighter than air systems for government and industrial organizations. He was an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, an Associate Member of the Society of Naval Architects, an Honorary Life member of the Lighter than Air Society and of the Navy Lakehurst Historical Society and a past president of the Naval Airship Association.