Ben Abruzzo Encyclopedia Article

Ben Abruzzo

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Ben Abruzzo

1930-1985

American balloonist who took part in two historic ocean crossings. In 1978, along with Maxie Anderson and Larry Newman, Abruzzo flew from Maine to France aboard the *Double Eagle II* to make the first Atlantic crossing by ballon. In 1981 as captain of the helium-filled *Double Eagle V* he crash landed in California after making the first balloon flight across the Pacific Ocean with Newman and two other crew members.