

## Dan Calkin and his ELF's: (he never called them Elves)

*By John J Brown*

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**Dan Calkin and his ELF's: (he never called them Elves)** By John J Brown

Dan Calkin

After five years of intensive research, the complete story of Dan Calkin's life and his ELF engines is finally being told. Dan's ELF's are among the most desirable to collectors of model airplane engines. Until now, very little was known about the engines or the man; now they will both be among the best know and understood.

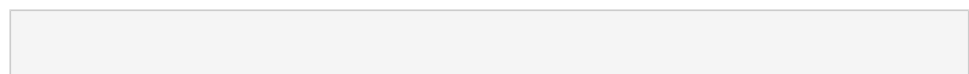
With full cooperation and encouragement of the Calkin family - Dan's widow Josephine, and daughter Cecilia, the story of Dan from his school days to model airplane engine manufacture to rocket scientist is complete. Extensive interviews with former employees and associates, as well as company records, help to fill in any missing details.

Dan Calkin manufactured the first small production engines for model airplanes and made the world's first one-quarter in spark plugs for them. He specialized in multi-cylinder engines, including twins, fours, and even six cylinder engines.

The first five chapters detail Dan's life and his struggle to make a living during the Depression years and afterward. The succeeding chapters examine all the engine models including production changes, accessories and options.

The surviving prototype and experimental engines are shown, as well as all twenty-three models of the ELF production engines. Each engine model is fully described with text and photographs. Every part is shown with all its changes. Most of the tooling used to make the engines still exists and is documented through photographs.

If you have ever been interested in model airplanes, you will be captivated by this story of one man's two-decade efforts to manufacture quality model airplane engines.



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**Dan Calkin and his ELF's: (he never called them Elves)** By John J Brown Bibliography

- Rank: #4316251 in Books
- Published on: 1999-11-11
- Binding: Hardcover
- 264 pages

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### **Editorial Review**

#### **Review**

"I can think of nothing to compare with it for technical or for narrative content concerning any other engine manufacture or his line of engines." --Jim Alaback, column editor of *Flying Models* magazine and *SAM Speaks*

"Overall, it is a tremendous piece of work. I can't help thinking it will become the standard against which such things will be gages in the future." --Tim Dannells, editor of *The Engine Collector's Journal*

#### **About the Author**

John Brown is a long-time model airplane enthusiast and historian. He believes he has the world's largest collection of model aviation literature. John has researched and published a number of articles about model airplane engines in *The Engine Collectors Journal*.

A native of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, John won the Junior New England Championship in 1949, his first big win in model airplane competition. Southern California has been his home since 1950. Now a retired teacher, he plans to devote his time to model airplanes, restoring his vintage Lotus sports cars and working on family history.

Dan Calkin and his ELF's is John's first book and probably his last.

### **Users Review**

#### **From reader reviews:**

##### **Micheal Moore:**

This Dan Calkin and his ELF's: (he never called them Elves) tend to be reliable for you who want to be described as a successful person, why. The reason of this Dan Calkin and his ELF's: (he never called them Elves) can be one of several great books you must have is actually giving you more than just simple reading through food but feed you actually with information that perhaps will shock your preceding knowledge. This book is actually handy, you can bring it everywhere you go and whenever your conditions both in e-book and printed types. Beside that this Dan Calkin and his ELF's: (he never called them Elves) giving you an enormous of experience for instance rich vocabulary, giving you trial of critical thinking that we know it useful in your day action. So , let's have it and revel in reading.

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