



Senator Barry M. Goldwater *6BPI - K7UGA - K3UIG* 1909-1998
Our presidential candidate born in Phoenix 1909 when Arizona was known as the “Arizona Territory” His grandfather was a Polish immigrant who founded a department store in Phoenix, Goldwater’s Department Store. His father, Baron Goldwater, converted the Episcopal Church from Judisam when he married his fiancée, Josephine Williams. The family name had been changed from Goldwasser to Goldwater at least as early as the 1860 census in Los Angeles. Barry graduated from Staunton Military Academy and attended University of Arizona. By 1939, the passing of his father, the family business had become too much to endure and our subject was treated for nervous breakdowns.

With the onset of WW2 Goldwater was commissioned in the Army Air Force, becoming a pilot assigned to deliver aircraft and supplies to war zones all over the world. He spent most of his assignments flying between the United States and India, via Azores and North Africa. He also flew “The Hump” over the Himalayas to deliver supplies to China. Remaining in the reserves after the war he retired with the rank of Major General

To mention a few things not readily known about our subject, Barry was an accomplished amateur photographer and at his death left some 15,000 of his images to three Arizona institutions. He was very keen on candid photography. He was best known for western landscapes and pictures of native Americans. He had three books on the subject published over the years.

Finally a word that this gent was a real radio pioneer! Not to forget this prolific spokesman for amateur radio and those in it. In 1989 Barry was interviewed by Ed Sharpe from SMECC Journal; “I remember telling my father I was interested in wireless, Goldwater said.. I built this little crystal set and that kind of astounded dad. So for Christmas he gave me a little Westinghouse called an Aeriola, Sr. It helped a lot. For a transmitter I started with a Ford spark coil to transmit with, later replaced with a larger spark transmitter. I was around fifteen years old. There was not much regulation in those days and we played music over an amateur transmitter. I think one night they heard me in Mesa!”



I love Goldwater’s less known bumper sticker

Au H2O 64 The 1964 campaign slogan chemical symbols for gold and water. Goldwater expired at age 89 in Paradise Valley AZ of complications from a stroke. Partially scripted from Wikipedia. QSL card W8JYZ collection. See entire interview with Ed Sharpe at www.smecc.org