

John Burtnick



JOHN BURTNICK 1981
33 YEARS PUMPING 245,412

John Burtnick was a Department of Transportation employee. He was appointed as the Imperial Oil agent at Port Hardy in the late 1940's and worked there continuously for 54 years. During all that time, he took only one 14 day holiday and worked a seven day week from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. setting a record almost unequalled elsewhere. There were three pumps at the airport tarmac and they pumped an average of 1,500 gallons a day.

John was a very gentle and quiet spoken man, always in a good mood. He knew everything that went on at the airport but kept his own counsel and was popular with everyone. He lived in a hangar and was never seen out of his overalls.



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John was possibly of Ukrainian extract from Manitoba, related to the owner of the Chiupka Fish Company at Lynn Lake.