

## Who is Chester Dunton?

Chester Dunton (1909-1992), born Canadian was a naturalized American Citizen. His mother, a brilliant engineer / mathematician, had a laser-like focus on crisp determinism. His father a gruff soil scientist / geologist, who eschewed morning coffee for a stiff whiskey, believed in sorting out the dog's breakfast to understand process. Chester, torn between the self-actualized pathways of his successful parents, was always fascinated with the occurrence and distribution of rainfall and runoff. Although Chester wanted to enter Berkeley, he was deemed too intense and subsequently ran off to Cambridge where he occasionally became saturated, dropping out until he could absorb more. Chester lived most of his adult life in Point Roberts, Washington where (seemingly unnoticed) he crossed back and forth between Canada and the United States an estimated 50,000 times. For several decades Chester was an irrigation / drainage superstar who traveled the world designing / installing custom systems for professional sports fields, championship golf courses, national cemeteries, and royal gardens. His favorite consulting job was for an ocean front polo field in Tahiti. It is worth noting that Chester despised artificial turf. Chester (under the alias Wyatt Black) took first place at a non-sanctioned sandcastle competition outside of White Rock, British Columbia in the early sixties with a *true to scale* 1958 Edsel, using Jell-O in the sand-water mixture to increase the surface tension. One thing is for sure, perhaps as a result of his repeated border crossings, Chester Dunton was a skittish sort, unsure as to whether he should turn this way or that (i.e., like the drops of water undecided whether to Horton or Dunne themselves). The Dunton hypothesis, involving both the gradient and rate of flow, was clearly espoused by the man himself while waxing on about enjoying a few beers ..... *at some point one becomes saturated, with the excess spilling over onto the surface*. Having a large mouth and rotund figure, Chester clearly understood that the rate limitation to his imbibition did not lie at the point of entry but with some constriction along the flow path and that ample storage was available at depth. Chester was last seen on the Hawaiian island of Kaua'i (on September 11, 1992) during Hurricane Iniki. The circumstances of his death have never been reported. However, legend has it that Chester was paddling out to surf the big waves; like Eddie Aikau, *Chester Would Go*.