Fireball

Home

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Photo Album

Links

Double click on image to enlarge







On 10 August 1972 at 2:30pm, my brother Ray and his wife Donna, Linda and myself were standing on the shores of Jackson Lake in the Grand Teton National Park. Ray pointed to a large fireball streaking across the sky. I had my 35mm camera and took a picture as the fireball was directly over the largest peak of the Teton mountains. I then pointed out the fireball to Linda who took 28 seconds of movie until the fireball disappeared out of sight to the North. We thought the fireball was a rocket being launched from Vandenburg Air Force Base.

A couple years later we learned that the fireball was a meteorite that had entered the earth's atmosphere over Utah and after 101 seconds departed the atmosphere over Canada.

I sent a copy of the photo to Sky and Telescope magazine, the Smithsonian Institute and NASA. I never received a reply from NASA, but the Smithsonian Institute replied that they would add the photo to their collection in the Air and Space Museum. Sky and Telescope call and ask that they be allowed to place the photo on the cover of their magazine. The photo was published on the cover of Sky and Telescope magazine on July 1974 Vol.48, No.1. It has since been published in the National Geographic Magazine, the latest being September 1986, page 416,417 Vol. 170, No.3. The photo was published in hundreds of newspapers and books. The picture is in many Planetarium and in many TV Documentaries. It can also be seen in Jackson Lodge in the Teton National Park. Linda's 28 seconds was also aired on the Walter Cronkite CBS evening news.

For further information on the World Famous Fireball, please contact: Mr. Allen Parker at the following e-mail address: oldmilnium@aol.com