

# What others are saying about... Firestorm

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**Firestorm** is an intensely compelling account of the efforts of one man to create a climate where unorthodox thinking could safely flourish. Ann Druffel deserves high marks for pulling together a vast mass of hitherto disconnected information about McDonald's fight for an unbiased look at a taboo topic. She interviewed family, friends and colleagues and sifted thru his private journals and other personal papers to recreate in page-turning detail a little-known period in American ufological history. It's a bravura performance; don't just buy a copy, lobby your library to do likewise.

—George Earley for *UFO Magazine*

We often hear “why don't scientists of renown take UFOs seriously?” Atmospheric physicist James E. McDonald was just such a scientist — and he did take UFOs seriously. And now for the first time we learn the inside story of his struggles, failures and triumphs in this stirring biography, deftly researched and superbly written by well-respected researcher Ann Druffel on the basis of complete access to his private files. Whether the reader be a skeptic, an enthusiast, or simply curious, Druffel's riveting account of McDonald's challenge to the government and scientific communities is a significant chapter in the UFO debate that must not be missed!

— Hal Puthoff, Ph.D.

Director, Institute for Advanced Studies at Austin

I dearly wish that we had someone to take McDonald's place, for, to my mind, the principal value of Druffel's book is not for its biography of a superb scientist, valuable as that is, but rather for the book's systematic exposition of the seriousness of the UFO issue, as ferreted out by McDonald. On the UFO question, Ann Druffel has made a *major contribution* with this biography....the book is truly excellent, and it will be what I recommend that anyone read, who wonders why I remain deeply interested in the UFO controversy.

—Richard Conn Henry, Department of Physics and Astronomy  
Johns Hopkins University for *The Journal of Scientific Exploration*

There's plenty of intrigue, deception and truth-seeking in Druffel's well-documented, perceptive account of a man prepared to go out on a limb for his scientific curiosity. An important addition to ufological literature.

—NEXUS

Druffel really did her homework going through an enormous quantity of material. Jim was the epitome of persistence, courage, comprehensiveness, and genius. His much too early suicide deprived his family and the world of an outstanding contributor not only to atmospheric physics, ufology, and the use of science for the benefit of mankind. I was particularly impressed with the treatment of his suicide about which there have been many false speculations. One can only wonder what Jim would have thought about all the revelations about the government cover-up that have been provided by documents obtained under Freedom of Information and from various archives. The book is very well referenced. I would give it 5 stars. A must read.

—Stanton T. Friedman, Nuclear Physicist; Author of *UFOs, The Real Story*

continued

A riveting read! The book is great and shows how McDonald in the last analysis was brought down by his unflinching belief in the honesty of others which reflected that of his own. He just found it hard to believe that the government would lie to its citizens or that politics and dogmatism and peer pressure reigns in science. ...Druffel provides readers with a masterful biographical legacy of McDonald's brilliant contributions to science and his focused yet futile attempts to obtain scientific recognition of the UFO phenomenon in the face of dogmatism and government opposition. A job well done.

—**Raymond Fowler**, Researcher and Author of *UFO Testament*, *The Watchers Series*, *The Allagash Abductions*

Ann Druffel not only has defined the man, but she also has described, in detail, his mission. Perhaps future historians can use her monumental book to assess Dr. McDonald's work—and life—as a megastep for the scientific investigation of the extraterrestrial presence.

— **Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle**, Pioneer UFO Researcher and Author of *Soul Samples*

The field of ufology owes a great debt to Ann for her diligence and persistence in gathering together the whole story of McDonald's combined UFO and science careers, and presenting it so interestingly. The book is also a repository for in-depth descriptions of many of the classic UFO events of the 1950s and 60s.

— **Dr. James Deardorff**, Retired Atmospheric Scientist, Oregon State University

Ann Druffel's *Firestorm* is a disturbing piece of work, and as she relates the history of McDonald's one-man war to get to the truth behind the UFO enigma, she also pursues the truth in much the same tireless way as her subject. McDonald may have been ahead of his time, but Druffel's book could not be more timely.

—**Sean Casteel** for *FATE Magazine*

...the outstanding contribution of the book is as a chronicle of what happens to a sincere scientist when he ventures outside of the accepted boundaries of the scientific and government establishments. As a testimony to the human spirit's unflagging commitment to the search for truth whatever the cost, this book deserves honors.

—**Marianne Martin** for *Light of Consciousness*

Druffel takes us on a captivating journey charting one man's obsession with the mystery of the UFO...no short or lengthy review could do real justice in describing this title fully... I recommend '*Firestorm*' highly, not only to UFOlogists but to the general reader too, it is an incredible book that leaves a wake of nostalgic American cultural history and fascination for UFOs and perhaps its panoramic content could provide guidelines for the future of international UFOlogy.

—**Gary Anthony** for *EYE Magazine*

To arrange an interview with Ann Druffel or for further information,  
contact Eileen Duhné @ 415.459.2573 • Eileen@SouledOut.org

