

Artist's ashes over Flying Saucer Hill

By DOREEN LEVIN

SOUTH African artist and art promoter Aubrey Fielding, a former British Military Intelligence Officer, an actor and broadcaster, has died in Johannesburg.

And this weekend, Maj Fielding's wife, Elizabeth Klarer, a meteorologist and UFO expert, will take his ashes to scatter them on Flying Saucer Hill on the heights of Cathkin Peak in the Drakensberg. This was his request shortly before he died last Friday, two weeks before his 78th birthday.

Potchefstroom-born Maj Fielding began painting when he was seven and exhibitions where his works were shown over the years include the Royal Scottish Academy, the Royal Institute of Oil Painters, the Royal Society of British Artists, the Leister Galleries and the Ashmeleum Museum, Oxford.

His last exhibition was in Johannesburg six years ago.



MR AUBREY FIELDING
Art promoter

As a young man Maj Fielding became deeply involved in the theatre and went to London. He worked first for the Old Vic and then with Gainsborough Film Studios under Michael Balcon as an actor, scenery painter, assistant stage manager and scenario writer.

When "talkies" came in, he began managing cinemas in Britain before returning to

South Africa to become the first manager of the Plaza in Johannesburg when it opened here.

During the Second World War he was a camouflage officer in the Eighth Army in North Africa. There is a tribute to his work in Sir Winston Churchill's memoirs.

After the war he spent nearly 20 years in Malaya as a member of the British Intelligence.

He met Elizabeth Klarer, his fourth wife, when he came to lecture to the South African Air Force in 1958. At the time Mrs Klarer was working for the SAAF.

Mrs Klarer said this week: "We married in 1963 and were together for 18 wonderful years. During that time Aubrey ran the Adler Fielding Gallery. When he gave it up three years ago, it broke his heart.

"He had seen the space ships and was 100 percent behind me in my work on UFOs. The flying saucers brought us together," Mrs Klarer said.



Mrs Elizabeth Klarer with her husband's painting of Flying Saucer Hill