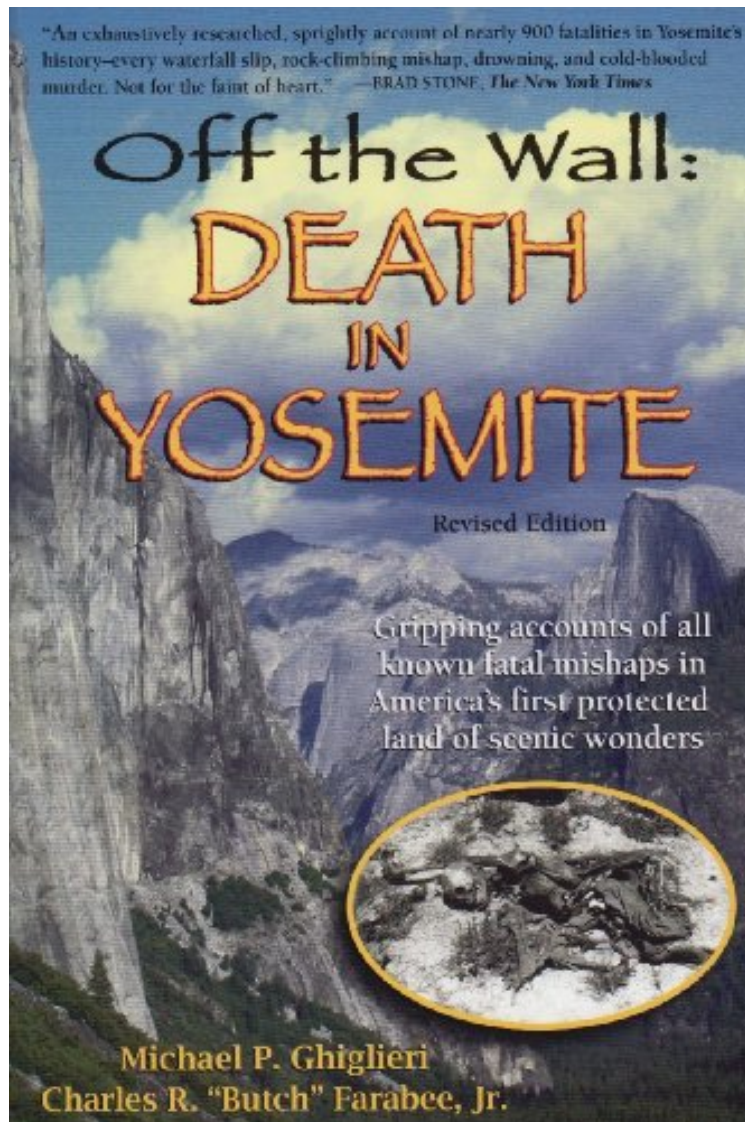


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Off the Wall: Death in Yosemite

Michael P. Ghiglieri, Charles R. Farabee
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Michael P. Ghiglieri, Charles R. Farabee : Off the Wall: Death in Yosemite before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Off the Wall: Death in Yosemite:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A must read if you are planning a visit to the Grand Canyon..so you don't make the same mistakesBy Sandra L. TaylorOne of are all time favorite books. We have bought 3 at this point cause friends borrow them, and they never come back...16 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Off the Wall: Death In YosemiteBy Land LubberThis book was written by a retired National Park Ranger who well documented all the knownfatalities that have occurred over the last 150 years within the Yosemite Park

boundaries. The text is divided into chapter categories such as: Waterfalls, Base Jumping, Snow, Aircraft, Down Falls, While Hiking, Drowning, Lost, Murder, Homicide. Each chapter gives what amounts to a study on select events within the category and then provides a full summary of the fatalities within that category at the end of the chapter which includes incidents that were not fully described in the case study. The style of writing is not dry at all and includes hints of sarcasm or humor where appropriate. For example, one woman was killed while illegally BASE jumping (parachuting) off of a cliff. The event was advertised and the Park Service knew of it in advance because the event was a "protest" to demonstrate the "safety" of BASE jumping. The author points out the irony that the woman DIED as she attempted to protest the "unnecessary" prohibition against a sport she felt was "safe." The text even provides eye witness recollections of the final words people uttered as they slipped to their deaths (you can guess a few of those words). Details of the deaths can sometimes be gruesome, but there is only one photo in the entire book and that is on the front cover. (A man who starved to death in the 1930's after being trapped by an early winter storm). The book is actually an excellent source of wilderness education. If you are the type of person who learns from the mistakes of others, you will benefit by reading the book. Or, if you are simply unaware that people actually get LOST in Yosemite Park and are never heard from again, it is an eye opener. And for those among us who think that a National PARK is safe to behave without concern of one's behavior, the book will explain that the term PARK is nothing more than a bureaucratic title for what can be a dangerous wild area. I had one friend reject the concept of reading the book as "not being a positive activity." Its people like him who falsely think that going through life is a matter of "being positive" rather than being well informed. Its people like him who get lost and then can't extract themselves from danger despite being a "positive thinker." I recommend the book for adult or young adult reading and give it a 5 Star rating. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book has been a great read and really does call to attention how to ... By Elizabeth This book has been a great read and really does call to attention how to be much safer outdoors, not just at Yosemite. Entertaining read with good detail and nice recap at the end of each section. Really fascinating especially if you've been to Yosemite and hiked many of the trails discussed.

Gripping accounts of all known fatal mishaps in America's first protected land of scenic wonders.

This book is much, much more than a simple accounting on tragedy. It is rich in historical context and develops the setting and background for the deaths chronicled. It provides valuable lessons to be learned and to be re-learned and reinforced. Through the investigative reports, it puts you into the minds of some of the people involved and even into the minds of the victims. It provides rare insight in the world of Yosemite. --Michael Finley, Superintendent of Yosemite 1989-1994
About the Author Michael Ghiglieri earned a Ph.D. in Ecology from U.C. Davis for research on wild chimps in Uganda. He has worked as a wilderness river and trekking guide in the Sierra Nevada and many other regions and countries since 1974, rowing 141 trips down Grand Canyon. His book *Over the Edge: Death in Grand Canyon* is still Northern Arizona's regional best selling book. Charles R. "Butch" Farabee earned his M.S. from the FBI Academy and during 34 years with the National Park Service (10 in Yosemite) rose from protection ranger to superintendent. He has responded to 1,000+ Search Rescue missions and has managed these departments in Yosemite and Grand Canyon. His books *Death, Daring and Disaster: Search and Rescue in the National Parks* and *Ranger: An American Icon* are sold in nearly every National Park in America.