

# NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

## BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

**NAME:** Joseph P. "Joe" Allen

**ORAL HISTORY:** 28 January 2003  
16 March 2004  
18 March 2004  
18 November 2004  
18 April 2006

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

B.A. in Math-Physics, DePauw University, Greencastle, IN, 1959  
M.S. in Physics, Yale University, New Haven, CT, 1961  
Ph.D. in Physics, Yale University, New Haven, CT, 1965

### **PRE-NASA EXPERIENCE:**

Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, NY (1963-1967)

- Guest Research Associate (1963-1967)

Nuclear Structure Laboratory, Yale University, New Haven, CT (1965-1966)

- Guest Research Associate (1965-1966)

Nuclear Physics Laboratory, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (1967)

- Research Associate (1967)

### **NASA EXPERIENCE:**

NASA Manned Spacecraft Center/Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX (1967-1975, 1978-1985)

- Astronaut, Astronaut Office (1967-1975, 1978-1985)

NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC (1975-1978)

- NASA Assistant Administrator for Legislative Affairs (1975-1978)

### **POST-NASA EXPERIENCE:**

Space Industries Inc., Houston, TX (1985-1991)

- Executive Vice President (1985-1991)

Space Industries International, Washington, DC (1991-1993)

- Chief Executive Officer (1991-1993)

Calspan SRL Corp., Washington, DC (1993-1997)

- Director (1993)
- President and Chief Executive Officer (1994-1997)
- Chairman of the Board (1995-1997)

Veridian, Arlington, VA (1997-2003)

- Chairman of the Board (1997-2003)

## MISSIONS:

### STS-5 (*Columbia*)

- Crew: Commander Vance D. Brand, Pilot Robert F. Overmyer, Mission Specialist 1 Joseph P. Allen, Mission Specialist 2, William B. Lenoir
- Launched: 11 November 1982 at 07:19:00 A.M. EST from Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Duration: 5 days, 2 hours, 14 minutes, 26 seconds
- Landed: 16 November 1982 at 06:33:26 A.M. PST Edwards AFB, California
- Mission Highlights: This was the Space Shuttle's first operational flight, and the first mission to have four crew members onboard. Two communication satellites were deployed: Anik C-3 and SBS-3. The crew completed three Shuttle Student Involvement Program experiments. Flight controllers cancelled the Space Shuttle's first planned spacewalk when the crew had problems with the spacesuits.

### STS 51-A (*Discovery*)

- Crew: Commander Frederick H. Hauck, Pilot David M. Walker, Mission Specialist 1 Anna L. Fisher, Mission Specialist 2 Dale A. Gardner, Mission Specialist 3 Joseph P. Allen
- Launched: 8 November 1984 at 07:15:00 A.M. EST from Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Duration: 7 days, 23 hours, 44 minutes, 56 seconds
- Landed: 16 November 1984 at 06:59:56 A.M. EST, Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Mission Highlights: The crew deployed two satellites: the TELESAT-H (Anik D2) and SYNCOM IV-I (Leasat 1). Allen and Gardner retrieved two faulty satellites with the use of the Manned Maneuvering Units. Other payloads included: Diffusive Mixing of Organic Solutions (DMOS) and Radiation Monitoring Equipment (RME).

## AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- Fulbright Scholar, 1959-1960
- Outstanding Flying Award, Class 69-06, Vance Air Force Base, 1969
- NASA Group Achievement Award, 1971, 1974
- Yale Science and Engineering Association Award for Advancement of Basic and Applied Science, 1972
- Depauw University Distinguished Alumnus Award, 1972
- NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal, 1973
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal, 1978
- NASA Superior Performance Award, 1975, 1981
- Honorary Doctor of Science from DePauw University, 1983
- Wilber Cross Medal, Yale University, 1983
- Komarov Diploma, Federation Aeronautique Internationale, 1985
- Honorary Doctor of Science from State University of New York, Buffalo, 2003
- Inductee, National Wrestling Hall of Fame, Stillwater, OK

**SELECT PUBLICATIONS & PATENTS:**

Joseph P. Allen, Entering Space: An Astronaut's Odyssey (New York: Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 1984).

Joseph P. Allen, "Industrial Space Facility," in Proceedings of the Second International Conference and Exhibition on the Commercial and Industrial Uses of Outer Space, Montreaux, Switzerland, Feb. 21-25, 1988 (New York: Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, 1988), 181-200.

Joseph P. Allen, "Business and Life in Space," in Biological Life Support Technologies: Commercial Opportunities, eds. Mark Nelson and Gerald Soffen (Washington, DC: NASA, 1990), 88-95.

**REFERENCES:**

"Allen leaves NASA," Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center), 28 June 1985, 2.

Douglas B. Hawthorne, Men and Women of Space (San Diego: Univelt, 1992), 22.

"Dr. Joseph P. Allen, Chairman of the Board," Veridian Homepage, Online, <http://www.veridian.com/Aboutus/allen.asp> (Last Updated n.d.; Accessed 17 July 2001).

"Eleven complete membership of space advisory committee," Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center), 3 August 1990, 1.

"Mission Summary," NASA Spacelink Homepage, Online, <http://spacelink.nasa.gov/NASA.Projects/Human.Exploration.and.Development.of.Space/Human.Space.Flight/Shuttle/Shuttle.Missions/Flight.005.STS-5/Mission.Summary> (Last Updated n.d.; Accessed 18 April 2002).

"Space Center Houston sets Spaceweek events," Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center), 19 July 1993.

"STS 51-A," Kennedy Space Center Historical Archive Homepage, Online, <http://science.ksc.nasa.gov/shuttle/missions/51-a/mission-51-a.html> (Last Updated 29 June 2001; Accessed 11 March 2002).

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