

# NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

## BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

**NAME:** Joseph G. Gavin, Jr.

**ORAL HISTORY:** 10 January 2003

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

B.S. in Aerospace, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, Massachusetts,

M.S. in Aerospace, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1942

**MILITARY EXPERIENCE:** United States Naval Reserve (World War II) – Engineering Officer

**PRE-NASA INVOLVEMENT:**

United States Naval Reserve (1942-1946)

Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation, Bethpage, New York

Design Engineer (1946-1948)

Engineer, Preliminary Design Group (1948-1950)

Project Engineer – F9F-6 *Cougar* (1950-1952)

Project Engineer – F11F *Tiger* (1952-1956)

Chief Experimental Projects Engineer (1956-1957)

Chief Missile and Space Engineer (1957-1962)

**NASA INVOLVEMENT:**

Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation, Bethpage, New York

Vice President and Director, Lunar Module Program, Project Apollo (1962-1972)

**POST-NASA INVOLVEMENT:**

Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation, Bethpage, New York

Senior Vice President (1970-1972)

President (1972-1976)

Chairman of the Board (1973-1976)

President and Chief Operating Officer (1976-1985)

Senior Management Consultant, Grumman (1985-1990)

Chairman, International Coop Magnetic Fusion Committee, National Research Council (1983-1984)

Chairman of the Board, Grumman Data Systems Corporation

Member, Board of Directors

Grumman Houston Corporation

Grumman International, Incorporated

Grumman Allied Industries, Incorporated

Grumman Credit Corporation  
Grumman St. Augustine Corporation  
Grumman Technical Services, Incorporated  
Calldata Systems, Incorporated  
Call Data Federal Services, Incorporated  
European American Banking Corporation  
ISI Systems, Incorporated  
Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, Incorporated  
Pine St. Fund  
Member, Energy Research Advisory Board, United States Department of Energy  
Member, Corp. Vis. Com. Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics, MIT  
Member, MIT Corporation  
Member, Policy Advisory Committee, Advisory Panel on Fusion Energy, United States  
Department of Defense  
Chair, Committee on Advanced Space-based High Power Technologies, National  
Research Council  
Chair, Committee on Earth-to-Orbit Transportation Options , National Research Council

**PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:**

- Fellow (and past President), American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)
- Fellow, American Astronautical Society (AAS)
- Member, Aerospace Industries Association (AIA)
- Member, International Academy of Astronautics (IAA)
- Member, National Academy of Engineering (NAE)

**AWARDS & CITATIONS:**

- Aerospace Educational Council, Inc., Man-of-the-Year Award, 1968
- NASA Distinguished Public Service Medal, 1971

**BIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:**

American Men and Women of Science, 1992, 16<sup>th</sup> Edition, s.v. "Gavin, Joseph Gleason, Jr."

Apollo Spacecraft: Lunar Module News Reference, "Background Section," (Bethpage, NY: Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation. Public Affairs, Space, 1968), B-2.

Gavin, Joe, Interview by HBO Productions 26 June 1996, Transcript.

Who's Who in America, 1988-1999, 45<sup>th</sup> Edition, s.v. "Gavin, Joseph Gleason, Jr."