

# NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

## BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

**NAME:** John Herschel Glenn, Jr.

**ORAL HISTORY:** 25 August 1997

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

Attended Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio, September 1939-January 1942  
Received Private Pilot's License, Muskingum College Civilian Pilot Program, July 1941  
Graduated Naval Aviation Cadet Program at University of Iowa, 1943  
Graduated Naval Test Pilot School, Patuxant River, Maryland, July 1954  
Attended University of Maryland, November 1956-April 1959  
Received BS in Mathematics from Muskingum College, 1962

### **PRE-NASA CAREER:**

United States Marine Corps  
F4U Pilot, Marine Fighter Squadron 155, Marshall Islands (1943-1944)  
Pilot, Fighter Squadron 218, China and Guam (1946-1948)  
Instructor, Advanced Flight Training School, Corpus Christi, Texas (1949-1951)  
Attended Amphibious Warfare Training, Quantico, Virginia  
Pilot, Marine Fighter Squadron 311, Korea, 1953  
F-86 Sabrejet USAF Exchange Pilot, Korea  
Project Officer, Naval Test Pilot School, Patuxant River, Maryland,  
Fighter Design Branch, Navy Bureau of Aeronautics (1956-1959)

### **NASA CAREER:**

NASA Space Task Group, Langley Research Center, Hampton, Virginia/NASA Manned  
Spacecraft Center, Houston, Texas  
Astronaut (1959-1964)  
Payload Specialist STS-95 (January 1998-November 1998)

### **POST-NASA CAREER:**

Executive, Royal Crown International (1965-1974)  
United States Senator, United States Congress, Washington D.C. (1974-1999)  
Chairman, Committee on Governmental Affairs (1987-1995)  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Manpower and Personnel, Armed Services  
Committee (1987-1993)  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Readiness, Armed Services Committee (1993-1995)  
Member, Select Committee on Intelligence  
Member, Special Committee on Aging

**MISSIONS:**

Mercury-Atlas 6 (MA-6) (*Friendship 7*)

- Crew: John H. Glenn, Jr.
- Launched: February 20, 1962 at 9:47:39 a.m. EST from Cape Canaveral
- Duration: 4 hours, 55 minutes, 23 seconds
- Landed: February 20, 1962 at 14:43:02 A.M. EST, Pacific Ocean
- Mission Highlights: First American to orbit the Earth.

STS-95 (*Discovery*)

- Crew: Commander Curtis L. Brown, Pilot Steven W. Lindsey, Mission Specialist 1 Scott E. Parazynski, Mission Specialist 2 Stephen K. Robinson, Mission Specialist 3 Pedro Duque, Payload Specialist 1 Chiaki Mukai, Payload Specialist 2 John H. Glenn
- Launched: October 29, 1998 at 02:19:34 p.m. EST from Cape Canaveral, Florida
- Duration: 8 days, 21 hours, 44 minutes
- Landed: November 7, 1998 at 12:04 P.M. EST, Cape Canaveral
- Mission Highlights: The crew of STS-95 conducted a number of experiments in the Spacehab module, deployed and retrieved the Spartan solar observatory, and released the Petite Amateur Naval Satellite (PANSAT). This mission marked John H. Glenn's return to flight, the first American to orbit the Earth in 1962.

**AWARDS & CITATIONS:**

- Distinguished Flying Cross (six)
- Air Medal with 18 Oak Leaf Clusters (for service in World War II and Korea)
- Navy Unit Commendation (for service in Korea)
- Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal
- American Campaign Medal
- World War II Victory Medal
- China Service Medal
- National Defense Service Medal
- Korean Service Medal
- United Nations Service Medal
- Korean Presidential Unit Citation
- Navy Astronaut Wings
- Marine Corps Astronaut medal
- NASA Distinguished Service Medal
- Congressional Space Medal of Honor
- Honorary Doctor of Science, Muskingum College, 1961
- Honorary Doctor of Engineering, Nihon University, Tokyo, Japan
- Honorary Doctor of Engineering, Wagner College, New York
- Honorary Doctor of Engineering, New Hampshire College.

**SELECT PUBLICATIONS:**

Carpenter, M. Scott, L. Gordon Cooper, Jr., John H. Glenn, Jr., Virgil I. Grissom, Walter M. Schirra, Jr., Alan B. Shepard, Jr., and Donald K. Slayton. We Seven. New York: Simon Schuster, 1962.

Gillcrist, Paul T. and John H. Glenn. Crusader! Last of the Gunfighters. Schiffer Publishing, Ltd., 1995.

Glenn, John H. Friendship 7 & the John Glenn Story. VHS Tape. International Historic Films, 1989.

Glenn, John, Scott Carpenter, Alan Shepard, Virgil Grissom, Gordon Cooper, Donald Slayton, and Walter Schirra. Into Orbit. London: Cassell Company Ltd., 1962.

Glenn, John and Nick Taylor. John Glenn: A Memoir. New York: Bantam Books, 1999.

Heatley, C.J. and John Glenn. Forged in Steel: US Marine Corps Aviation. Howell Press, 1987.

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