

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Gerald D. Griffin

ORAL HISTORY: 12 March 1999

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Aeronautical Engineering, Texas A&M University, 1956
USAF Primary/Basic Navigator Course, Navigator Rating, 1957
USAF Radar Fighter Interceptor Course, Radar Intercept Officer Rating, 1958
MBA Graduate Study, Santa Clara University (no degree, 1961-1962)

PRE-NASA CAREER:

United States Air Force
Navigator/Radar Intercept Officer, F-89 Scorpion & F-101 Voodoo aircraft, 1956-1961
Lockheed Missile and Space Company, Sunnyvale, California
Missile Systems Engineer (1961-1962)
General Dynamics, Fort Worth, Texas
Senior Aerosystems Engineer (1962-1964)

NASA CAREER:

Manned Spaceflight Center (Johnson Space Center), Houston, Texas
Flight Controller, Gemini Systems Section, Flight Control Division (1964-1966)
Head, Guidance, Navigation, and Control Section, Flight Control Division (1966-1967)
Assistant Chief, CSM Systems Branch, Flight Control Division (1967-1968)
Flight Director, Flight Control Division (1968-1973)
NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC
Assistant Administrator for Legislative Affairs (1973-1975)
Deputy Associate Administrator for Space Flight (Operations) (1975-1976)
Dryden Flight Research Center, Edwards, California
Deputy Director of Center (1976-1977)

Kennedy Space Center, Florida
Deputy Director of Center (1977-1981)
NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC
Acting Associate Administrator for External Relations (1980-1981)
NASA Transition Officer, Carter-to-Reagan Administrations (1980-1981)
Assistant for STS Planning, Office of Space Transportation Systems (1982)
Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas
Director of Center (1982-1985)

ADDITIONAL NASA DUTIES:

- Member, NASA Personnel Management Review Committee (1977-1981)
- Member, NASA Equal Opportunity Council (1977-1981)
- Member, NASA Senior Executive Services (SES) Task Group (1978-1979)
- Chairman, Ad Hoc Committee on Application of OMB Circular A-76 to R&D - White House Assignment (1978-1979)
- Member, NASA SES Performance Review Board (1979-1981)

POST-NASA CAREER:

- Scott Science and Technology, Inc., Lancaster, California
Vice President (1981-1982)
- Director, Houston Chamber of Commerce (1985)

PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:

- Century Club Member, Association of Former Students, Texas A&M University
- Co-Founder, Charter Member, Secretary, San Francisco Bay Area A&M Club
- Eminent Engineer and Member, Tau Beta Pi (Honorary Engineering Fraternity)
- Fellow, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
- Fellow, American Astronautical Society
- Fellow, British Interplanetary Society
- Member, Aggie Club, Texas A&M University
- Member, Southwest Houston A&M Club

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:

- Director and Board of Advisors, Missile, Space and Range Pioneers (1981- date unknown)
- Chairman, Nominating Committee, Boy Scouts of America, Bayshore Council (1982- date unknown)
- Board of Governor, National Space Club, Washington, DC (1982- date unknown)
- Board of Directors, Economic Development Foundation, Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce (1983- date unknown)
- Board of Directors, Junior Engineering, Technology and Science (1983- date unknown)
- Board of Advisors, Texas A&M Space Research & Technology Program (1984- date unknown)
- Local Governing Board, St. John Hospital, Nassau Bay, Texas (1984- date unknown)
- The Conference Board, 845 Third Avenue, New York, New York (1984- date unknown)
- Member, Research Advisory Committee, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution (1984- date unknown)
- Board of Advisors, Space Research and Technology Program, Texas A&M University (1984- date unknown)
- Executive Board, Boy Scouts of America, Sam Houston Area Council (1984- date unknown)

- Member, Houston Economic Development Council, Houston Chamber of Commerce (1984- date unknown)
- Vice-Chairman, Combined Federal Campaign, United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast (1984)
- Chairman, Combined Federal Campaign, United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast (1985)

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- NASA Exceptional Service Medal - Apollo 12 (1970)
- Presidential Medal of Freedom Group Award - Apollo 13 (1970)
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal - Apollo 15 (1971)
- NASA Creative Management Award (1974)
- Purdue University, Old Master Award (1978)
- Eminent Engineer, Tau Beta Pi (1979)
- Presidential Rank - Meritorious Senior Executive (1980)
- NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal (1981)
- Alumni Honor Award, Texas A&M University, College of Engineering (1983)
- Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, University of Houston-Clear Lake (1984)
- Distinguished Alumnus of Texas A&M University (1985)
- Presidential Rank - Distinguished Senior Executive (1985)

SELECT PUBLICATIONS:

White House Study on Government Procurement Practices for Research and Development Activities, Chairman of Study, Published Report, 1979.

The James Clayton Lecture, Institution of Mechanical Engineers, London, England, "The Mechanical Engineering Aspects of the Space Shuttle Orbiter," Published and Delivered September 1984.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET CREATED: 30 OCTOBER 1997