

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Wayne E. Koons

ORAL HISTORY: 14 and 15 October 2004

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Physics and Mathematics, Ottawa University, Ottawa, KS, 1956

PRE-NASA EXPERIENCE:

Westinghouse, Air Arm Division, Baltimore Maryland (1956)

- Air Arm Division (1956)

U.S. Marine Corps (1956-1961)

- Lieutenant, Pilot, Project Mercury Retrieval Force, Marine Air Force Group 26, New River, NC (1956-1961)

NASA EXPERIENCE

Manned Spacecraft Center (renamed Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in 1973), Houston, TX (1961-1983)

- Flight Range Coordinator under the Flight Operations Division (1961-1965)
- Program Manager, Landing and Recovery Division-System Suitability Section, Operational Evaluation & Test Branch, Flight Operations (1965-1967)
- Chief, Recovery Systems Branch, Landing and Recovery Division, Flight Operations (1967-1968)
- Technical Assistant, Office of the Director of Flight Operations (1968-1970)
- Manager, Space Shuttle Program Office-Payloads and Operations Office (1970-1973)
- Special Assistant, Space Shuttle Orbiter Project Office-Office of the Project Manager (1973-1977)
- Technical Assistant, Space Shuttle Orbiter Project Office-Office of the Project Manager (1977-1979)
- Manager, Space Shuttle Orbiter Project Office-Manufacturing and Test Office (1979-1983)

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- Ottawa University Distinguished Service Award for work in the Mercury Program, 1961
- Outstanding Young Men of America, 1967 and 1968
- NASA Group Achievement Award, 1962, Project Mercury
- NASA Group Achievement Award 1962, Project Gemini
- NASA Group Achievement Award 1969, Apollo
- Selected to "Personalities of the South," 1968 and 1969
- NASA Group Achievement Award, 1971, Lunar Quarantine
- NASA Group Achievement Award, 1974, Skylab
- NASA Group Achievement Award, 1977, ALT Television System
- Special Achievement Award, 1980 and 1981
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal, 1981, Orbiter Project

SELECT PUBLICATIONS & PATENTS:

W.E. Koons, "Scoop Attachment Makes Helicopter Recoveries Easier and Safer," MSC-130 (Houston: NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, 1965): 6.

REFERENCES:

Christopher C. Kraft, Jr. "Reorganization and Personnel Assignment of Landing and Recovery Division," 15 November 1965, GR1013, Center, JSC History Collection, University of Houston-Clear Lake, University Archives, Houston, TX.

Christopher C. Kraft, Jr. "Reorganization and Personnel Assignment of Landing and Recovery Division," 27 February 1967, GR1013, Center, JSC History Collection, University of Houston-Clear Lake, University Archives, Houston, TX.

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center Telephone Directory (Directory 1962-1980), Organization Files, Center Series, JSC History Collection, University of Houston-Clear Lake, University Archives, Houston, TX.

NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center News Release, "Koons Receives NASA Service Medal," 81-037, 24 September 1981, Public Affairs Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Wayne E. Koons NASA Biographical Data Sheet (May, 1967), Biographical File, Public Affairs Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Wayne E. Koons Service Record Card, Wayne E. Koons Personnel File, Human Resources Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

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