

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Jon A. McBride

ORAL HISTORY: 17 April 2012

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Aeronautical Engineering, U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA , 1971
Graduate work in Human Resources Management, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA

PRE-NASA EXPERIENCE:

U.S. Navy (1965-1989)

- Naval Aviation Training, Pensacola Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL, (1965-Date Unknown)
- Naval Aviator, Fighter Squadron 101, Naval Air Station Oceana, VA (Dates Unknown)
- Naval Aviator, Fighter Squadron 41 (Dates Unknown)
- Naval Aviator, Fighter Squadron 11 (Dates Unknown)
- Naval Aviator, Fighter Squadron 103 (Dates Unknown)
- U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School, Edwards Air Force Base, CA (Dates Unknown)
- Maintenance Officer, Air Test and Development Squadron Four, Point Mugu, CA (Dates Unknown)
- Sidewinder Project Officer, Air Test and Development Squadron Four, Point Mugu, CA (Dates Unknown)
- Detailed to NASA (1978-1989)
- Retired as Captain (1989)

NASA EXPERIENCE:

NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX (1978-1989)

- Astronaut, Astronaut Office (1978-1989)

NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC (1987-1989)

- Acting Assistant Administrator for Congressional Relations (1987-1989)

POST-NASA EXPERIENCE:

Flying Eagle Corporation, Lewisburg, WV (Dates Unknown)

- President and Chief Executive Officer (Dates Unknown)

R.L. Bliss & Associates, Inc., Charleston, WV (Dates Unknown)

- Executive Associate (Dates Unknown)

MISSIONS:

STS 41-G (*Challenger*)

- Crew: Commander Robert L. Crippen, Pilot Jon A. McBride, Mission Specialist 1 Kathryn D. Sullivan, Mission Specialist 2 Sally K. Ride, Mission Specialist 3 David C. Leestma, Payload Specialist 1 Marc Garneau, Payload Specialist 2 Paul D. Scully-Power
- Launched: 5 October 1984 at 07:03:00 A.M. EDT from Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Duration: 8 days, 5 hours, 23 minutes, 33 seconds
- Landed: 13 October 1984 at 12:26:33 P.M. EDT, Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Mission Highlights: This flight had a total of seven crew members—the largest crew ever to fly onboard a single spacecraft at the time; this was also the first flight which included two women, Ride and Sullivan. Sullivan was the first American woman to complete an extravehicular activity (EVA). The crew tested the Orbital Refueling System (ORS) and proved it was possible to refuel satellites in Earth orbit. The crew also deployed the Earth Radiation Budget Satellite. Other payloads included: the Large Format Camera (LFC), the IMAX Camera, a package of Canadian Experiments (CANEX), Auroral Photography Experiment (APE), Radiation Monitoring Equipment (RME), Thermoluminescent Dosimeter (TLD), and eight Get Away Specials.

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- Defense Superior Service Medal
- Three Air Medals
- Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V
- Navy Unit Commendation
- National Defense Medal
- Vietnamese Service Medal
- NASA Space Flight Medal
- West Virginia Secretary of State's "State Medallion"
- West Virginia Ambassador of Good Will Among All Men
- Honorary Doctorate of Science from West Virginia University (1985)
- Honorary Doctorate of Science from the University of Charleston (1987)
- Honorary Doctorate of Science from the West Virginia Institute of Technology (1987)

REFERENCES:

Jon A. McBride NASA Biographical Data Sheet (May 1989), Jon A. McBride Personnel File, Awards Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

"Principals," R.L. Bliss & Associates, Inc. Homepage, Online, <http://www.consultants-mall.com/bliss3.htm> (Last Updated 20 September 2001; Accessed 3 June 2002).

"STS 41-G," Kennedy Space Center Historical Archive Homepage, Online, <http://science.ksc.nasa.gov/shuttle/missions/41-g/mission-41-g.html> (Last Updated 29 June 2001; Accessed 13 March 2002).