

# NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

## BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

**NAME:** Thomas Uriel McElmurry

**ORAL HISTORY:** 23 August 2000

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 1940  
M.S. in Engineering, Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio

**MILITARY EXPERIENCE:** Major, United States Air Force (Retired)

**MILITARY CAREER:**

United States Air Force (USAF) Experimental Flight Test Pilot School, Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), Edwards, California (1956)  
Chief of the Operations and Training Branch, USAF Experimental Flight Test Pilot School, Edwards AFB, Edwards, California (1959-1960)  
USAF Aerospace Research Pilot School, Edwards AFB, Edwards, California (1960-61)  
Instructor, USAF Aerospace Research Pilot School, Edwards AFB, Edwards, California (1961-1962)

**NASA CAREER:**

NASA Headquarters, Washington, D.C.  
Chief, Flight Crew Operations, Office of Manned Space Flight (OMSF) (1964-1967)  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center/ Johnson Spacecraft Center, Houston, Texas  
Technical Assistant for Advanced Planning, Director of Flight Crew Operations (1967-1973)  
Chief, Orbiter Atmospheric Flight Test Office, Director of Flight Crew Operations (1974-1978)  
Deputy Manager, Operations Integration, Space Shuttle Program Office (1978-1980)  
Manager, Operations Integration, Space Shuttle Program Office (1980-1982)  
Visiting Lecturer, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott, Arizona (Summer 1983)  
Assistant for Systems Reliability and Quality Assurance (SR&QA), Systems Division, Mission Operations (1982-1984)

**POST-NASA CAREER:**

Visiting Associate Professor, Aerospace Engineering Department, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas (1980s-present)

**CURRENT OCCUPATION:** Visiting Association Professor, Texas A&M University; Retired

**PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:**

- Member, Mu Chapter of Theta Tau (Co-ed Engineering Fraternity)

**SELECT PUBLICATIONS:**

McElmurry, Thomas U. "Aerospace Design Education at Texas A&M University." AIAA Paper 88-4413. AIAA, AHS, and ASEE, Aircraft Design, Systems and Operations Meeting. Atlanta, Georgia, 1988.

**BIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:**

Borman, Frank, Countdown: An Autobiography, With Robert J. Serling (New York: Silver Arrow Books, 1988), 79.

Slayton, Donald K. "Deke," Deke! U.S. Manned Space: From Mercury to the Shuttle, With Michael Cassutt, (New York: Tom Doherty Associates, 1994), 70-71.

Slayton, Donald K, Director of Crew Operations, 25 August 1967, "New Staff Member," Skylab Series Chronological Files, Assistant Director for Flight Crew Operations July 1967 – December 1967, Box 504, History Collection, Scientific and Technical Information Center, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Telephone Directories, Manned Spacecraft Center and Johnson Space Center, 1967-1984, Scientific Technical and Information Center, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas.

Wade, Mark, ed., "Thomas Uriel McElmurry," [Encyclopedia Astronautical Homepage], [Online]. (25 October 1999—Last Updated), Available: <http://www.friends-partners.ru/partners/mwade/astros/mcemurry.htm> [14 March 2000—Accessed].

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