

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Richard W. "Rick" Nygren

ORAL HISTORY: 12 January 2006, 9 March 2006 and 16 March 2006

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, Northrop University, Inglewood, CA, 1966

NASA EXPERIENCE:

NASA Manned Spacecraft Center/Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX (1966-1989)

- Apollo Command Module Equipment and Systems Engineer, Flight Crew Support Division (1966-1969)
- Skylab Orbital Workshop Engineer, Flight Crew Support Division (1969-1973)
- Apollo Soyuz Command Module Systems Engineer, Flight Crew Support Division (1973-1975)
- System Training Engineer, Training Division (1975-1977)
- Flight Control Division (1977-1979)
- Chief, Vehicle Integration Test Team (1979-1985)
- Assistant Director of Flight Crew Operations and Chief, Vehicle Integration Test Office (1985-1989)

NASA Headquarters, Washington, D.C. (1989-1990)

- Technical Assistant to the Associate Administrator, Office of Space Flight (1989)
- Acting Director, Space Shuttle Operations Utilization (1989-1990)

NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX (1990-2001)

- Acting Manager, System Integration Office, Space Station *Freedom* Program and Operations Office (1990-1991)
- Deputy Manager for Integration, Space Station *Freedom* Program and Operations Office (1991-1994)
- Assistant to the Director for Russian Programs, Space and Life Sciences Directorate
- Co-chair Mir Operations and Integration Working Group
- Associate Director, Space and Life Sciences Directorate
- Manager, International Space Station (ISS) Payload Offices (2000-2001)

POST-NASA EXPERIENCE:

- European Space Agency (ESA)/Astrium (2002)
- National Space Biomedical Research Institute (NSBRI) (2005)

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- NASA Exceptional Service Medal, 1981
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal, 1988
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal, 1998

SELECT PUBLICATIONS & PATENTS:

John J. Uri, Richard W. Nygren, Jeffery A. Cardenas, "Lessons learned from Mir – A Payload Perspective," Acta Astronautica 56 (2005): 877-882.

REFERENCES:

"Awards Ceremony Honors JSC Individuals, Teams," Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center), 17 July 1998, 1.

"NASA, European Space Agency Team Delivers First Integrated Payload Trainer to JSC," Space Center Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center), 25 August 2000, 7.

NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center Telephone Directories (1973-1998), Organization Files, Center Series, JSC Oral History Collection, University of Houston-Clear Lake, University Archives, Houston, TX.

NASA Manned Spacecraft Center Telephone Directories (1966-1972), Organization Files, Center Series, JSC History Collection, University of Houston-Clear Lake, University Archives, Houston, TX.

"People on the Move," Space Center Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center), 14 December 2001, 8.

"Return To Flight Awards Presented to JSC Employees," Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center), 16 December 1988, 1.

Richard Nygren, interview by Rebecca Wright, Carol Butler, and Summer Bergen, 23 July 1998, Transcript, JSC Oral History Project, JSC History Collection, University of Houston-Clear Lake, University Archives, Houston, TX.

Richard W. Nygren NASA Biographical Data Sheet (August 1993), Richard W. Nygren Biographical File, Public Affairs Office, NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

"Today at Teague Auditorium: Employees and Contractors Honored," Space News Roundup (NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center), 11 September 1981, 2.

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