

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Chester A. Vaughan

ORAL HISTORY: 16 December 1998
12 January 1999

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Virginia, 1959

NASA CAREER:

NASA Langley Research Center, Langley Field, Virginia
Cooperative Education (Engineering) Program (1955-1959)
Space Vehicle Group, Applied Materials and Physics Division (1959-1961)

NASA Manned Spacecraft Center/Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas
Aerospace Technologist, Auxiliary Propulsion Section, Energy Systems Branch,
Systems Evaluation and Development Division (1961-1964)
Head, Reaction Control Section, Auxiliary Propulsion and Pyrotechnic Branch,
Propulsion and Power Division (1964-1975)
Deputy Chief, Thermochemical Test Branch, Propulsion and Power Division (1975-
1978)
Chief, Thermochemical Test Branch, Propulsion and Power Division (1978-1984)
Deputy Chief, Propulsion and Power Division (1984-1986)
Chief, Propulsion and Power Division (1986-1991)

NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC
Chief Engineer, Office of Space Flight (1991)

NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas
Chief, Propulsion and Power Division (1991-1993)
Deputy Director, Engineering Directorate (1993-1995)
Chief Engineer, Space Station Program (1995-)

NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Alabama
Acting Deputy Director (rotational assignment) (October 1994-December 1994)

CURRENT OCCUPATION: retired from NASA (ca.1996)
consultant for Boeing on International Space Station

PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:

- Member, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)
- Fellow, American Astronautical Society (AAS)
- President, Southwest Section, AAS
- Registered Professional Engineer, State of Texas

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- AIAA Section Service Award (1972)
- Ed White Backup Award
- Johnson Space Center Certificate of Commendation (1986)
- Johnson Space Center Superior Achievement Award (1975, 1982)
- Merit Pay Award (1982)
- Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award (1994)
- NASA Group Achievement Award (many)
- NASA Engineer of the Year Award (1994)
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal (1980, 1981)
- NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal (1989)
- National Space Club Eagle Manned Mission Success Award (1980)
- North Galveston County Chamber of Commerce Robert R. Gilruth Award (1993)
- Outstanding Performance Rating (1984-1993)
- Performance Management Recognition System Award (1984-1986)

SELECT PUBLICATIONS:

Akkerman, J. W., L. W. Jenkins, and C. A. Vaughan. "Use of parametric equations to optimize a landing rocket and subsequent model testing." NASA Technical Report TM-X-65052 (70N75388). 21 October 1964. Houston: NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, 1964.

Eide, D. G. and C. A. Vaughan. "Motion equations and design criteria for vehicle despin by radial release of weights and cables of finite mass." NASA Technical Report TN-D-1012 (62N10025). Hampton, Virginia: NASA Langley Research Center, 1962.

Kendrick, D., H. O. Pohl, and C. A. Vaughan. "Space shuttle reaction control system." In Society of Automotive Engineers, National Aeronautic and Space Engineering and Manufacturing Meeting, Los Angeles, California, October 5-9, 1970, by the Society of Automotive Engineers. N.p.: SAE, 1970.

Vaughan, Chester A., Robert Villemarette, Witalij Karakulko, and Donald R. Blevins. "Apollo Experience Report - Lunar Module Reaction Control System." NASA Technical Note TN-D-6740 (72N21887). March 1972. Houston: Manned Spacecraft Center, 1972.

Vaughan, C.A. "Apollo Reaction Control Systems." In American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Propulsion Joint Specialist Conference, 4th, Cleveland, Ohio, June 10-14, 1968. AIAA Paper 68-566. N.p.: AIAA, 1968.

Vaughan, Chester A. "Reaction Control Systems." August 1966. Biographical Files. Cabinet 3, Drawer 3. Scientific and Technical Information Center. Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center. Houston, TX.

BIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

NASA Biographies for Chester A. Vaughan, Key Personnel Files, Awards Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

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