

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Donald Edward Williams

ORAL HISTORY: 19 July 2002

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, 1964

MILITARY EXPERIENCE: Captain, United States Navy (retired)

PRE-NASA EXPERIENCE:

United States Navy (1964-1990)

Ship Station *USS Enterprise*, Vietnam

Attack Squadron 113 (1966-1968)

Attack Squadron 97 (1971-1973)

Flight Instructor, Attack Squadron 125, Naval Air Station, Lemoore, California (1969-1971)

Test Pilot (1974-1978)

NASA INVOLVEMENT:

NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX (1978-1990)

Astronaut, Shuttle Avionics Integration Laboratory (SAIL) (1979-1982)

Deputy Manager, Operations Integration /National Space Transportation Program Office (1982-1983)

Pilot, STS-51D (April 1985)

Deputy Chief, Aircraft Operations Division (1985-1986)

Commander, STS-34 (October 1989)

POST-NASA EXPERIENCE:

Assistant Vice President and Division Manager, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), Houston, TX (1990-2000)

Vice President and Program Manager, SAIC, National Data Buoy Center, NASA Stennis Space Center, MS (2000 to Present)

PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:

- Society of Experimental Test Pilots
- Life Member of Association of Space Explorers
- National Aeronautic Association

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- Legion of Merit, 1990
- Defense Superior Service Medal, 1985
- 2 Navy Commendation Medals with Combat: Vietnam

- 2 Navy Unit Commendations
- Meritorious Unit Commendation
- National Defense Medal, 1973
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, 1974
- NASA Exceptional Service Medal, 1989
- Vietnam Service Medal with 4 Stars, 1974
- Vietnamese Gallantry Cross with Gold Star
- Vietnam Campaign Medal, 1973

SOURCES:

Donald E. Williams NASA Biographical Data Sheet (October 1989), Donald E. Williams Biographical File, Public Affairs Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

Association of Space Explorers Webmaster, "Donald E. Williams Biography," Association of Space Explorers Homepage, Online, <http://www.space-explorers.org/bios/Williams-don.html> (Last Updated 20 November 2001; Accessed 26 November 2001).

Douglas B. Hawthorne, Men and Women of Space (San Diego: Univelt, 1992), 802-804.

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