endeavor I assess this Houston are you
ready for the event Houston this is ISS
we're ready for the event w jit TV this
is Houston please call endeavour ISS for
voice check
Houston this is WJ Artie do you hear me
that BJ Artie this is ISS we have you
loud and clear
Oh loud and clear
we like that all right we hear you loud
and clear go ahead and I'm thrilled and
honored to be talking to the the pilot
of the space shuttle Endeavour Gregory
Johnson and mission specialists JA
drew hoist over gentlemen I was going to say good evening it's good evening here how do I address you is a good morning good afternoon and good evening up there well it's kind of a morning for us we've just been up a few hours we're spending our final ten hours or so in the space station we're going to close the hatches tonight sleep and then on dock first thing in the morning so it's a bittersweet day for us today Greg I'm going to ask my first question to you being the pilot of endeavor boy you you get to see some fantastic real
estate when you're flying

the bird and I understand there's one or
two places on the planet that really
really like and it's kind of a back door
compliment I think one of them is here
in Michigan is that right that's
absolutely correct
it's it's a little confusing but being a
military brat Ohio and Michigan have
both been kind of my home states I went
to high school in Ohio but maybe I'd
like to retire in Traverse City Michigan
there's a beautiful lake Long Lake
Michigan
it's just southwest of Traverse City

00:02:12,479 --> 00:02:17,549
about eight or ten miles and we had an

00:02:15,659 --> 00:02:20,250
overflight drew and I both have been

00:02:17,550 --> 00:02:22,530
trying desperately to get some great

00:02:20,250 --> 00:02:24,240
photos of Michigan it was cloudy over

00:02:22,530 --> 00:02:26,939
the Detroit area but Traverse City was

00:02:24,240 --> 00:02:30,240
clear and we flew directly over the bay

00:02:26,939 --> 00:02:33,629
the Grand Traverse bays and got a

00:02:30,240 --> 00:02:37,550
straight down shot on Long Lake

00:02:33,629 --> 00:02:37,549
up near Traverse City it was wonderful

00:02:37,639 --> 00:02:42,329
through that's a natural follow-up for

00:02:40,289 --> 00:02:43,889
those who don't know drew is born and

00:02:42,330 --> 00:02:45,510
raised in Ligurian just down the street

00:02:43,889 --> 00:02:49,229
from where I'm talking to you right now

00:02:45,509 --> 00:02:51,000
and drew you've logged a lot of time in
spacewalks and it to me that's one of

the greatest thrills the launch space

Watson return can you ever put into

words can you Oliver belies the feeling

of what it's like to take a spacewalk!

can tell you it's it's quite

exhilarating it's the first moments

outside of the airlock are a little bit

tense you could say even a little bit

my first experience in space was

of course with the Hubble Space

Telescope and in that environment the

our work area was just just out the

back door inside the shuttle payload Bay
in this case on the International Space Station when you open the hatch you’re staring straight down on the earth and I can tell you it really took my breath away that first moment and felt a little tentative moving around and then to see the great expanse of the space station as it hovers over the earth is just fascinating the colors are very vivid the structures are very real and you realize you've got quite a long ways to go to get to your worksite but it's very special opportunity and I’m just thrilled to
have had that chance to be out there and do the spacewalks and do the work on the space station you know -

I've often wondered you know it does the training that you go through for spacewalk weightlessness even come close to the actual experience I'm sure they try their best to train you but is it like night and day or is it really pretty close well it's pretty close except for the view you know we train at the neutral buoyancy laboratory which is a large pool and has the structure of the International Space Station in it
but the details are extremely close and

in fact that's one of the things that

helps us because when we get out on the

space station here in space it's easy to

become disoriented because we our bodies

are able to maintain different positions

than we do in the neutral buoyancy lab

and that's mainly due to gravity and

some of the loads we have to deal with

there so

when you get turned upside down or

facing the wrong direction and you have

the distractions of the earth spinning

beneath you it can can send your your

gyro spinning in your head and get you a
little bit of sense and lose a sense of direction so details and the effort that the folks at the Johnson Space Center put into training us and providing us with those mock-ups of our facilities really save us and help us and with almost 200 hours of training for this mission in that pool that allowed us to really focus on our tasks and not become distracted by the views or the disorienting body positions out there gentlemen we ask our viewers to pose some questions on our Facebook page and there was one resounding theme and it's
a pretty simple question we think we
know the answer of we'd certainly like
to hear you what are your thoughts about
the end of the space shuttle program
this particular question also needed by
Allen and I'm going to PostScript that
by asking kind of a b-side of that too
while the shuttle program may be coming
to an end you know as a kid I always
wanted to grow up to be an astronaut
kids today both girls and boys they can
still have that dream can't they the
space shuttle program may be coming to
an end we still need astronauts
absolutely I was in Cairo Michigan on the east side there with at my grandparents house walked watching a black-and-white TV when I was 7 years old watching the first lunar landing back in 1969 and at that point I had the dream of becoming an astronaut and it took about 40 years but finally achieved that that dream here the last few years I've gotten a couple space flights and you know endeavour is a has been a and the Space Shuttle has been a workhorse for space exploration essentially building the entire space
station fixed the Hubble telescope and

doing a whole bunch of other interesting

tasks out in space and when the Space

Shuttle retires we're going to lose a

lot of capability of moving large pay

loads out to space but then that opens

the doors for new things that are going

to come across the horizon and the

children out there should be inspired

that when they get to go they'll

probably get to go beyond low-earth

orbit maybe to the moon maybe to Mars or

beyond you have anything to say that's a

great answer

thank you gentlemen - and I have one
final question this one I'm going to

pose to to Greg I know you're going to

be pretty busy come Monday bringing the

bring endeavor back home but it is

Memorial Day you and several others

astronauts certainly have seen military

service even some combat service what

are your thoughts were you thinking of

Memorial Day 2011 drew feel free to jump

in on that one - well you know we have a

rich history in our country of service

and it was honor for me to serve my

country for 24 and a half years I still

kind of feel like I have the same job
after retiring from the Air Force I had

the same desk the same duties and and

basically flying in space has been my

job in the Air Force for the last 10

years of it so I would say that I'm

proud of all those who have served and

all of those in the federal government

who have also supported a military

service and you know it's just a

bittersweet a weekend thinking about

that and having allowing us to be doing

what we love and I can I would just like

to say that after having in the program

for 10 years it's an honor to serve the
country this way as a civilian and I
guess it's appropriate that endeavour as
fun as landing it as final flight here
at a memorial day to sort of commemorate
it all and it makes it that much more
special for us on this anniversary and
the occasion of its landing and spinal
flights well drew Greg thank you very
much for your time and thank you for
your service to our country have a fun
trip back home and the Paseo and Terra
Firma pretty soon thank you gentlemen
thanks so much
endeavour ISS this is Houston ACR that
concludes the wjr t TV portion of the event please stand by for a voice check from WKYC

hi Greg hi drew it's Eric Mansfield in Cleveland Ohio can you hear me tonight

hi Eric we have you loud and clear from the International Space Station all right here we go let's just track this here here we go in three two one and it is my pleasure tonight to go live now to the International Space Station and talk with pilot Greg Johnson and mission specialist drew foist 'el up way up there at the International Space Station of course aboard sts-134 endeavour
gentlemen good evening how is the trip going a good evening

we're having a fantastic time this is flight day 14 which for us is actually our final day on the space station and we've had for exceptional spacewalks during the time up here we've been in preparations over the last few days of transferring items resupply items to the space station and we're now in the process of packing up everything we need to take back with us on the shuttle and get ready to leave can you talk to me about just what it means that the
significance of saying goodbye to the shuttle program and also for both of you saying goodbye the International Space Station to come home well it's been an honor to be aboard endeavour my I love all those shuttles but endeavours been my favorite I flew my first flight in endeavour it's the newest space shuttle and now this is the 25th flight a nice round number for endeavours a final mission and so it's a thrill to be on this final flight of Endeavour and we're really pleased to be able to help round out the program with
successful work that we've had up here

and we hope that there's one more flight

after us and they'll finish

off the space shuttle program and we

really believe that we're ending on a

very strong and positive note looking

forward to future opportunities sure and

you know the prayers of America and

certainly everybody in Northeast Ohio is

with you how is commander Mark Kelly

doing because certainly everyone's

concerned about him and sending their

best wishes during this trip well he's

done quite well he's an experienced
commander and expell experienced

00:11:54,879 --> 00:11:59,169
military pilot and he's performed

00:11:57,279 --> 00:12:00,399
flawlessly and been an exceptional

00:11:59,169 --> 00:12:02,620
leader for us over the past two years

00:12:00,399 --> 00:12:04,209
and I think it's an honor for both of us

00:12:02,620 --> 00:12:06,370
and the rest of the crew to serve with

00:12:04,210 --> 00:12:11,710
him and we've really really appreciated

00:12:06,370 --> 00:12:13,269
and enjoyed his leadership now before I

00:12:11,710 --> 00:12:15,070
let you go I got to ask you Greg I know

00:12:13,269 --> 00:12:17,829
that you went to high school in Ohio and

00:12:15,070 --> 00:12:19,930
drew you grew up in Michigan I love it

00:12:17,830 --> 00:12:25,330
to you getting along up there in Space

00:12:19,929 --> 00:12:27,250
Station well you know Drew and I were

00:12:25,330 --> 00:12:30,310
just talking about that this morning

00:12:27,250 --> 00:12:34,620
we're actually both from Ohio and
I went to high school in Ohio, but I have strong family roots in Michigan. My mom and dad both went to the University of Michigan, and my sister went to the University of Michigan. Even though Ohio State, the guy across the street had an Ohio State flag hanging during the Ohio State Michigan game, my dad would wear his mission go blue tie even with his military uniform, which is not exactly allowed but he would do it on that day you have anything to say. I just figure I lived close enough to Ohio, spent enough time there and have had some relatives that.
have lived in the state that I consider
Ohio part of my hometown area as well
all right well only in outer space can
you mix Michigan and Ohio and and get
along Greg and Drew thank you so much to
both you thanks for spending time with
us and have a safe journey home yeah
thanks for your time and we appreciate
the support endeavour ISS this is
Houston ACR that concludes the event
Thank You wjr t TV and WKYC t v--
endeavor ISS we are an hour
operational audio communications