There are many fields of study that have contributed to my success with NASA.

Primarily the engineering fundamentals that we learned.

Of course we never quit learning, so I’ve learned quite a bit since I’ve left college that also benefitted NASA and my career here at Stennis.

Now, I haven’t worked a lot of other NASA places, but I’ve intermingled and associated with people from other sites, and it appears that across the board NASA functions as a family, where you are at your facility.

That’s a good thing, especially if you’re dedicated to your job.

And, I do have a small outside… a small family, which lends me to be appreciative of the work family.

Where I’m from and the way I was raised, we treat everybody equally.

I am proud of that.
And it has made me who I am.

When we talk about diversity, and inclusionism with NASA, for some of us it comes naturally.

One part of my heritage that I’m proud of is that I learned a strong work ethic as a young child, and as a young person growing up.

I started work very early, and my family also was a strong saving family.

I learned that from my parents, who were depression era, both of them.

And neither one of them had it very easy during that time, during their young adulthood.

So I learned these things.

It just so happens that having a strong work ethic and being a strong saver enabled me to put myself through college.

Had it not been for those little breaks which are part of my heritage, I would not be anywhere close to where I am now.
I would say to aspiring students, that want to go to work for NASA, to make every effort to achieve that goal. And, like every other goal that you have, keep trying, don't give up, don't ever let anybody tell you, you can't do it because you can. And, one thing for sure, if you quit you won't make it. So, don't quit.