I remember being a kid in a classroom and the teacher had dim the lights and had us all push our desks to the middle of the room so you know we could see the TV straight on for the best picture and watching the power of the Saturn five rockets and knowing that there were live crews aboard seeing them land on the moon and learn how to walk in that alien environment gather samples and conduct science and then come back and walk among us again and tell us about it that was just thrilling for me and even though I didn't understand the technical
you know all the technological aspects

of it I knew that I wanted to be a part

of that excitement in that adventure and

so it was really interesting for me then

years later to be standing at Kennedy

Space Center watching a shuttle launch

and remembering how I felt during those

Apollo days and thinking well I've come

full circle one of the things that I do

for NASA is monitor the health of our

work culture I learned what our

strengths are and try to compound those

and look for our weaknesses and try to

improve those and I'm very proud to say
that in its category Stennis Space Center has been among the top five best places to work across the federal government there are a lot of women that I’ve drawn inspiration from over the years and actually if I had to name them I would say certainly Susan Kraske who is now the chief financial officer at Kennedy Space Center and marina Benning who worked here at Stennis for many years both were instrumental in my coming to work for NASA and were very helpful to me over time certainly my current boss Dorsey Jones who’s the
manager of the office of human capital I

44 00:02:02,810 --> 00:02:08,300 learned something from her every day but

45 00:02:05,959 --> 00:02:09,739 if there's one person that I would say

46 00:02:08,300 --> 00:02:12,890 influenced me the most it would

47 00:02:09,740 --> 00:02:15,469 certainly be my mother Alice she taught

48 00:02:12,889 --> 00:02:18,649 me about good work habits she was a

49 00:02:15,469 --> 00:02:20,419 librarian for over 40 years she was the

50 00:02:18,650 --> 00:02:22,789 head of the catalog department at a

51 00:02:20,419 --> 00:02:23,509 university library and I spent a lot of

52 00:02:22,789 --> 00:02:25,699 time

53 00:02:23,509 --> 00:02:27,709 at the library watching her work and

54 00:02:25,699 --> 00:02:29,539 just being a part of things and I

55 00:02:27,709 --> 00:02:33,049 noticed that she was very organized and

56 00:02:29,539 --> 00:02:34,969 very focused and I watched how those two

57 00:02:33,049 --> 00:02:36,739 things seemed to feed off of each other
the more organized she was the more she could focus and have fun and it brought out the best in her and she also taught me the value of good reading and writing skills if you're interested in a stem field keep going there's so much to discover and so much to be a part of with NASA this is work that isn't being conducted anywhere else in the world now if you decide that a stem field is not for you don't worry because NASA requires many different types of skills in order to accomplish its missions