



**Kevin Ford**

EXPEDITION 33 FLIGHT ENGINEER

1  
00:00:06,550 --> 00:00:04,390  
the next crew headed for the

2  
00:00:09,589 --> 00:00:06,560  
international space station is made up

3  
00:00:11,669 --> 00:00:09,599  
of three small town boys who all grew up

4  
00:00:14,310 --> 00:00:11,679  
with dreams of flying

5  
00:00:16,870 --> 00:00:14,320  
retired air force colonel kevin ford is

6  
00:00:18,950 --> 00:00:16,880  
a product of northeastern indiana the

7  
00:00:21,349 --> 00:00:18,960  
youngest of six kids was born in

8  
00:00:23,990 --> 00:00:21,359  
portland raised in montpelier and

9  
00:00:26,310 --> 00:00:24,000  
graduated high school in hartford city

10  
00:00:29,109 --> 00:00:26,320  
he was 14 when his oldest brother gave

11  
00:00:31,910 --> 00:00:29,119  
him his first ride in a small plane and

12  
00:00:32,870 --> 00:00:31,920  
ford was hooked on flying

13  
00:00:36,630 --> 00:00:32,880

i

14

00:00:38,549 --> 00:00:36,640

happened to

15

00:00:40,470 --> 00:00:38,559

to have a grocery in my town who had his

16

00:00:42,310 --> 00:00:40,480

own airplane and so he was really

17

00:00:43,670 --> 00:00:42,320

willing to give me a job

18

00:00:46,389 --> 00:00:43,680

give me all the hours i needed to pay

19

00:00:48,069 --> 00:00:46,399

for flying lessons ford already had his

20

00:00:50,150 --> 00:00:48,079

pilot's license when he finished high

21

00:00:53,189 --> 00:00:50,160

school and went to notre dame as an air

22

00:00:55,029 --> 00:00:53,199

force rotc student he graduated with a

23

00:00:57,189 --> 00:00:55,039

bachelor's of science in aerospace

24

00:00:59,110 --> 00:00:57,199

engineering did his air force pilot

25

00:01:01,750 --> 00:00:59,120

training at columbus air force base in

26  
00:01:06,310 --> 00:01:01,760  
mississippi and was assigned to an f-15

27  
00:01:07,910 --> 00:01:06,320  
squadron in germany it was 84 to 87 so

28  
00:01:09,910 --> 00:01:07,920  
kind of the height of the cold war kind

29  
00:01:12,230 --> 00:01:09,920  
of kind of time never saw myself in the

30  
00:01:13,910 --> 00:01:12,240  
future flying in a soyuz at that point

31  
00:01:15,670 --> 00:01:13,920  
i'll tell you that

32  
00:01:18,070 --> 00:01:15,680  
then it was a fighter interceptor

33  
00:01:19,510 --> 00:01:18,080  
squadron in iceland while finishing his

34  
00:01:21,910 --> 00:01:19,520  
master of science degree in

35  
00:01:23,830 --> 00:01:21,920  
international relations from troy state

36  
00:01:25,510 --> 00:01:23,840  
before being selected for the air force

37  
00:01:27,109 --> 00:01:25,520  
test pilot school

38  
00:01:29,030 --> 00:01:27,119

ford earned a master of science in

39

00:01:31,510 --> 00:01:29,040

aerospace engineering at the university

40

00:01:33,270 --> 00:01:31,520

of florida while flying as a test pilot

41

00:01:35,190 --> 00:01:33,280

at eglin air force base

42

00:01:37,429 --> 00:01:35,200

and then he took a three-year assignment

43

00:01:39,590 --> 00:01:37,439

to complete a doctorate in aeronautical

44

00:01:42,149 --> 00:01:39,600

engineering from the air force institute

45

00:01:43,990 --> 00:01:42,159

of technology he served as an instructor

46

00:01:46,149 --> 00:01:44,000

at the air force test pilot school

47

00:01:49,030 --> 00:01:46,159

before being selected as an astronaut in

48

00:01:51,830 --> 00:01:49,040

2000 and did a tour as nasa's director

49

00:01:53,190 --> 00:01:51,840

of operations in star city russia before

50

00:01:55,510 --> 00:01:53,200

making his first trip to the

51  
00:01:58,469 --> 00:01:55,520  
international space station as the pilot

52  
00:02:00,149 --> 00:01:58,479  
on a 2009 shuttle supply flight during

53  
00:02:01,830 --> 00:02:00,159  
expedition 20.

54  
00:02:04,469 --> 00:02:01,840  
ford is a supporter of robotic

55  
00:02:06,550 --> 00:02:04,479  
exploration beyond low earth orbit but i

56  
00:02:09,510 --> 00:02:06,560  
think that the human the emotional

57  
00:02:11,670 --> 00:02:09,520  
connection comes about because

58  
00:02:13,430 --> 00:02:11,680  
we we see ourselves out there we project

59  
00:02:15,589 --> 00:02:13,440  
ourselves out there and and we really

60  
00:02:17,670 --> 00:02:15,599  
want to go explore on our own

61  
00:02:19,990 --> 00:02:17,680  
have a look with our own eyes

62  
00:02:22,710 --> 00:02:20,000  
russian air force colonel oleg novitskiy

63  
00:02:25,270 --> 00:02:22,720

is from chervin a small town near minsk

64

00:02:31,110 --> 00:02:25,280

in what is now the republic of belarus

65

00:02:37,750 --> 00:02:34,229

when i was a kid i remember looking into

66

00:02:40,630 --> 00:02:37,760

the dark sky with stars and it was like

67

00:02:42,309 --> 00:02:40,640

a magnet after i grew up i realized that

68

00:02:45,350 --> 00:02:42,319

it's not as easy

69

00:02:47,990 --> 00:02:45,360

to become a cosmonaut so i picked the

70

00:02:49,430 --> 00:02:48,000

shortest route that meant becoming a

71

00:02:51,270 --> 00:02:49,440

military pilot

72

00:02:53,750 --> 00:02:51,280

after high school he entered the boroso

73

00:02:55,990 --> 00:02:53,760

glebs military pilot school but when the

74

00:02:57,990 --> 00:02:56,000

military reformed itself after the fall

75

00:03:00,229 --> 00:02:58,000

of the soviet union he moved to the

76  
00:03:02,550 --> 00:03:00,239  
kachin flight school and graduated with

77  
00:03:04,630 --> 00:03:02,560  
a specialization in command tactical

78  
00:03:06,070 --> 00:03:04,640  
aviation

79  
00:03:09,270 --> 00:03:06,080  
after that

80  
00:03:09,990 --> 00:03:09,280  
i also studied

81  
00:03:14,710 --> 00:03:10,000  
to

82  
00:03:17,030 --> 00:03:14,720  
about one year

83  
00:03:18,949 --> 00:03:17,040  
and in 1995

84  
00:04:15,750 --> 00:03:18,959  
i

85  
00:04:17,509 --> 00:04:15,760  
hopefully to mars

86  
00:04:20,310 --> 00:04:17,519  
russian air force lieutenant colonel

87  
00:04:23,590 --> 00:04:20,320  
evgeny tarelkin is the son of a military

88  
00:04:25,830 --> 00:04:23,600

pilot and a military doctor he was born

89

00:04:28,629 --> 00:04:25,840

in pervomeski in the cheetah region in

90

00:04:29,670 --> 00:04:28,639

southeastern siberia but lived all over

91

00:04:31,909 --> 00:04:29,680

the country

92

00:04:34,230 --> 00:04:31,919

in his desire to become a pilot he made

93

00:04:37,189 --> 00:04:34,240

his first parachute jump at the age of

94

00:04:39,110 --> 00:04:37,199

11 despite not weighing enough to make

95

00:04:40,310 --> 00:04:39,120

the system work

96

00:04:43,270 --> 00:04:40,320

i added

97

00:04:46,550 --> 00:04:43,280

sand to my pockets to my boots

98

00:04:48,629 --> 00:04:46,560

and so i did come to weigh 50 kilos so i

99

00:04:50,070 --> 00:04:48,639

went ahead and i jumped tarelkin

100

00:04:52,790 --> 00:04:50,080

graduated from high school in

101  
00:04:55,590 --> 00:04:52,800  
tchaikovsky near star city spent time at

102  
00:04:58,230 --> 00:04:55,600  
a military academy in menino graduated

103  
00:05:00,790 --> 00:04:58,240  
from the isc air force pilot school and

104  
00:05:02,790 --> 00:05:00,800  
then the yuri gagarin military academy

105  
00:05:05,430 --> 00:05:02,800  
with a specialty in air transport

106  
00:05:07,430 --> 00:05:05,440  
operations and air traffic management

107  
00:05:09,270 --> 00:05:07,440  
his first job was at the gagarin

108  
00:05:11,670 --> 00:05:09,280  
cosmonaut training center as a flight

109  
00:05:13,990 --> 00:05:11,680  
test engineer training cosmonauts in

110  
00:05:15,909 --> 00:05:14,000  
survival skills and as luck would have

111  
00:05:17,670 --> 00:05:15,919  
it parachuting

112  
00:05:18,870 --> 00:05:17,680  
being that close to the cosmonauts got

113  
00:05:21,590 --> 00:05:18,880

him thinking

114

00:05:24,469 --> 00:05:21,600

i could do that

115

00:05:27,990 --> 00:05:24,479

i thought i was ready i felt prepared i

116

00:05:31,590 --> 00:05:29,510

and i thought that maybe i'll make more

117

00:05:32,790 --> 00:05:31,600

contribution as part of the cosmonaut

118

00:05:34,790 --> 00:05:32,800

corps

119

00:05:37,270 --> 00:05:34,800

after almost four years training

120

00:05:39,670 --> 00:05:37,280

cosmonauts including zero gravity

121

00:05:41,350 --> 00:05:39,680

training in aircraft and underwater

122

00:05:44,550 --> 00:05:41,360

tarelkin was selected to join the

123

00:05:46,870 --> 00:05:44,560

cosmonaut core himself in 2003 and take

124

00:05:48,870 --> 00:05:46,880

on a new role in the effort to explore

125

00:05:50,550 --> 00:05:48,880

beyond earth orbit

126

00:05:54,390 --> 00:05:50,560

there's a low

127

00:05:57,510 --> 00:05:54,400

earth orbit stage is really necessary

128

00:05:59,270 --> 00:05:57,520

but we need to look forward and uh

129

00:06:00,469 --> 00:05:59,280

to think about uh

130

00:06:03,110 --> 00:06:00,479

flying to

131

00:06:03,909 --> 00:06:03,120

stars to other planets maybe meet