



1

00:00:02,070 --> 00:00:07,890

Elena Serova, the fourth Russian woman to go to space and the first since 1997, was

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00:00:07,890 --> 00:00:13,019

born in the far east of Russia, in a town called Voz-dviz-henka, where her father was

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00:00:13,019 --> 00:00:15,440

stationed with the soviet military.

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00:00:15,440 --> 00:00:20,650

There she learned to love the star-filled sky, and developed an appreciation for flight

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00:00:20,650 --> 00:00:23,460

on trips with her father to the airfield.

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00:00:23,460 --> 00:00:27,929

As a young student she was influenced by the writings of Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, the Russian

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00:00:27,929 --> 00:00:34,300

father of rocketry, and by the leading personalities of the early soviet space program.

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00:00:34,300 --> 00:00:42,539

When I was in school my first teacher told us about different achievements in cosmonautics

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00:00:42,539 --> 00:00:48,200

and I was very much impressed by those first flights, from Svetlana Savitskaya in particular,

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00:00:48,200 --> 00:00:52,949

who was the first woman performing a spacewalk.

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00:00:52,949 --> 00:00:56,160

She was an amazing individual.

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00:00:56,160 --> 00:01:00,789

Serova spent part of her teens in Germany when her father was transferred there, but

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00:01:00,789 --> 00:01:03,610

she returned to Moscow when it was time for college.

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00:01:03,610 --> 00:01:08,560

She pursued her interest in space and engineering at the Moscow Aviation Institute, graduating

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00:01:08,560 --> 00:01:13,490

from its aerospace department, and then going to work as a test engineer at the Rocket Space

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00:01:13,490 --> 00:01:18,720

Corporation Energia, while also earning a post-graduate degree in economics from the

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00:01:18,720 --> 00:01:21,940

Moscow academy of machinery and informatics.

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00:01:21,940 --> 00:01:26,979

She was selected for Russia's cosmonaut corps in 2006, and is eager for the opportunity

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00:01:26,979 --> 00:01:31,490

to go to space and improve life on Earth...

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00:01:31,490 --> 00:01:39,430

We don't do it for ourselves, we do it for others, for future generations, so that people