
# Astronaut
## at a Glance

1
00:00:05,138 --> 00:00:08,408
I grew up in Atlanta, Georgia,
and I went to Henderson High

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00:00:08,408 --> 00:00:09,409
School.

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00:00:09,409 --> 00:00:12,879
And then after that I went on
to the Air Force Academy and

4
00:00:12,879 --> 00:00:18,251
graduated in 1987 with a degree
in Astronautical Engineering.

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00:00:18,251 --> 00:00:21,688
And then following on education
from there, I did a completed,

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00:00:21,688 --> 00:00:27,060
in 1997 I did Georgia Tech,
Georgia Institute of Technology,

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00:00:27,060 --> 00:00:29,028
Masters in Electrical
Engineering.

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00:00:29,028 --> 00:00:30,230
Why did I become an astronaut?

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00:00:30,230 --> 00:00:31,431
That's a good question.

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00:00:31,431 --> 00:00:35,835
That's one of the things that I
remember I was about five when

11
00:00:35,835 --> 00:00:39,939
the landings on the moon

happened, I remember my parents.

12
00:00:39,939 --> 00:00:44,844
It was kind of my first memory
television, of black and white

13
00:00:44,844 --> 00:00:45,845
TV.

14
00:00:45,845 --> 00:00:50,550
My parents calling me in and
getting me up to watch the first

15
00:00:50,550 --> 00:00:52,786
moon landing with
Neil Armstrong.

16
00:00:52,786 --> 00:00:55,288
And when that happened, I just
remembered it's one of those

17
00:00:55,288 --> 00:00:58,758
things that when you're a kid,
the way you think about things

18
00:00:58,758 --> 00:01:02,662
and as you get older, you kind
of sit back and dream about it.

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00:01:02,662 --> 00:01:05,632
My first mission I flew on
STS126, which was on Space

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00:01:05,632 --> 00:01:06,633
Shuttle Endeavor.

21
00:01:06,633 --> 00:01:11,304
I launched November 15, 2008,
and we went up to the Space

22
00:01:11,304 --> 00:01:12,305
Station.

23
00:01:12,305 --> 00:01:15,208
And the Space Station at that
time only had three solar, three

24
00:01:15,208 --> 00:01:17,310
of the big solar rays.

25
00:01:17,310 --> 00:01:19,179
So we did four spacewalks.

26
00:01:19,179 --> 00:01:23,116
We call them EVAs to basically
lubricate that joint and allow

27
00:01:23,116 --> 00:01:26,753
the mission that followed us
actually add on the final array

28
00:01:26,753 --> 00:01:27,754
in its final configuration.

29
00:01:27,754 --> 00:01:29,789
So that was a big
part of our mission.

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00:01:29,789 --> 00:01:32,592
my second mission, I flew on
STS133, which is on Discovery.

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00:01:32,592 --> 00:01:36,796
It was actually, I was honored
to get the chance to fly the

32
00:01:36,796 --> 00:01:41,401
last space flight, Space Shuttle
Discovery, which is now in the

33
00:01:41,401 --> 00:01:42,469
Smithsonian Institute.

34
00:01:42,469 --> 00:01:46,706
And Discovery, at the end of the
mission, flew 39 times in space

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00:01:46,706 --> 00:01:49,209
and actually accumulated
365 days in orbit.

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00:01:49,209 --> 00:01:52,879
And on the final flight of
Discovery, we actually, the MPLM

37
00:01:52,879 --> 00:01:57,016
had been modified to be a PMM
and then permanent multipurpose

38
00:01:57,016 --> 00:01:58,017
module.

39
00:01:58,017 --> 00:02:00,019
And we actually physically
attached it to the station

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00:02:00,019 --> 00:02:01,020
that's up there now.

41
00:02:01,020 --> 00:02:05,325
We also brought up Robonaut
2, R2 that's on board.

42
00:02:05,325 --> 00:02:10,196
And we had a, it was a good
chance, it was the last three

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00:02:10,196 --> 00:02:11,764

missions that we started.

44
00:02:11,764 --> 00:02:15,335
Discovery came up next, then was
Endeavor, and then we finished

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00:02:15,335 --> 00:02:19,105
off the Space Shuttle program
with Atlantis on the final

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00:02:19,105 --> 00:02:20,106
flight.

47
00:02:20,106 --> 00:02:22,108
have 16 partner nations
that are working.

48
00:02:22,108 --> 00:02:24,477
And we have other nations
involved in the science and

49
00:02:24,477 --> 00:02:25,478
other things.

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00:02:25,478 --> 00:02:28,381
And bringing this world together
I think is one of the big parts

51
00:02:28,381 --> 00:02:30,383
of the International
Space Station.

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00:02:30,383 --> 00:02:35,588
And I think the future of
exploration is going to rely on

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00:02:35,588 --> 00:02:38,858
countries working together
to get to these far places.

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00:02:38,858 --> 00:02:42,128
Because to go to Mars, to
go to other planets, is very

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00:02:42,128 --> 00:02:43,129
expensive.

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00:02:43,129 --> 00:02:46,599
I think it's important as a
world that we get together and