



Astronaut

at a Glance

1
00:00:11,509 --> 00:00:09,830
i first started saying i wanted to be an

2
00:00:13,589 --> 00:00:11,519
astronaut when i was five years old my

3
00:00:15,509 --> 00:00:13,599
first real distinct memory of it was in

4
00:00:16,710 --> 00:00:15,519
first grade we were asked to draw a

5
00:00:18,870 --> 00:00:16,720
picture of what we wanted to be when we

6
00:00:20,550 --> 00:00:18,880
grew up and i remember drawing an

7
00:00:22,390 --> 00:00:20,560
astronaut standing on the moon with a

8
00:00:23,830 --> 00:00:22,400
flag in the background ever since then

9
00:00:25,349 --> 00:00:23,840
that's the only thing that i said that i

10
00:00:27,029 --> 00:00:25,359
wanted to be i think i was really

11
00:00:29,669 --> 00:00:27,039
fortunate in my life and throughout my

12
00:00:31,669 --> 00:00:29,679
career to have some exceptional mentors

13
00:00:34,310 --> 00:00:31,679

and role models i'm the youngest of five

14

00:00:37,190 --> 00:00:34,320

kids so i had a lot of older siblings to

15

00:00:38,869 --> 00:00:37,200

try to aspire toward and

16

00:00:40,549 --> 00:00:38,879

to sort of try to mimic throughout my

17

00:00:42,150 --> 00:00:40,559

life and they were all exceptional in

18

00:00:44,470 --> 00:00:42,160

everything they did so that was a good

19

00:00:46,549 --> 00:00:44,480

first start i went to brown university

20

00:00:48,709 --> 00:00:46,559

in providence rhode island and i decided

21

00:00:50,549 --> 00:00:48,719

to major in biology and i was pretty

22

00:00:52,790 --> 00:00:50,559

sure that i wanted to major in biology

23

00:00:55,430 --> 00:00:52,800

even from the beginning i also of course

24

00:00:57,830 --> 00:00:55,440

always had this interest in space so i

25

00:00:59,270 --> 00:00:57,840

continued to do space related activities

26

00:01:00,950 --> 00:00:59,280

throughout college

27

00:01:02,709 --> 00:01:00,960

training programs at kennedy space

28

00:01:04,310 --> 00:01:02,719

center the reduced gravity student

29

00:01:06,149 --> 00:01:04,320

flight opportunities program here and

30

00:01:08,149 --> 00:01:06,159

that kind of thing and then after i

31

00:01:09,750 --> 00:01:08,159

graduated from brown i went to the

32

00:01:11,510 --> 00:01:09,760

international space university in

33

00:01:14,390 --> 00:01:11,520

strasbourg france for their master's

34

00:01:17,350 --> 00:01:14,400

program so that's a year-long program

35

00:01:19,350 --> 00:01:17,360

that's interdisciplinary intercultural

36

00:01:21,670 --> 00:01:19,360

international they really emphasize

37

00:01:23,590 --> 00:01:21,680

these three eyes and so it was a

38

00:01:26,789 --> 00:01:23,600

comprehensive master's program about

39

00:01:28,390 --> 00:01:26,799

everything to do with space after that i

40

00:01:30,390 --> 00:01:28,400

actually came to the johnson space

41

00:01:33,109 --> 00:01:30,400

center to work for three years

42

00:01:34,469 --> 00:01:33,119

doing human physiology research so

43

00:01:35,910 --> 00:01:34,479

trying to

44

00:01:38,069 --> 00:01:35,920

understand all of the different

45

00:01:39,990 --> 00:01:38,079

processes and effects that microgravity

46

00:01:41,510 --> 00:01:40,000

and spaceflight have on the human body

47

00:01:43,510 --> 00:01:41,520

assisting with all those experiments

48

00:01:44,389 --> 00:01:43,520

which now of course i'll be a subject

49

00:01:46,230 --> 00:01:44,399

for

50

00:01:47,910 --> 00:01:46,240

but after three years i decided that i

51
00:01:49,109 --> 00:01:47,920
wanted to continue my education so i

52
00:01:50,550 --> 00:01:49,119
went to the scripps institution

53
00:01:52,710 --> 00:01:50,560
oceanography part of university of

54
00:01:55,910 --> 00:01:52,720
california san diego and i entered the

55
00:01:58,630 --> 00:01:55,920
phd program there and that was

56
00:02:01,350 --> 00:01:58,640
the beginning of my new area of research

57
00:02:02,870 --> 00:02:01,360
in looking at diving physiology so there

58
00:02:05,350 --> 00:02:02,880
at scripps i studied the diving

59
00:02:07,590 --> 00:02:05,360
physiology of birds and mammals so we

60
00:02:09,190 --> 00:02:07,600
did work in the antarctic

61
00:02:11,350 --> 00:02:09,200
going down to the antarctic for about

62
00:02:13,510 --> 00:02:11,360
three months at a time setting up a camp

63
00:02:15,589 --> 00:02:13,520

called the penguin ranch and studying

64

00:02:17,110 --> 00:02:15,599

these animals putting backpack recorders

65

00:02:19,030 --> 00:02:17,120

on them that measured different

66

00:02:20,790 --> 00:02:19,040

physiological variables the training's

67

00:02:23,350 --> 00:02:20,800

been great so far all that we've really

68

00:02:25,430 --> 00:02:23,360

imagined it would be incredibly diverse

69

00:02:27,910 --> 00:02:25,440

doing things ranging from taking russian

70

00:02:30,470 --> 00:02:27,920

class to flying in the t-38s the jets

71

00:02:32,309 --> 00:02:30,480

that we get our space flight operational

72

00:02:34,150 --> 00:02:32,319

training in we've had survival training

73

00:02:35,830 --> 00:02:34,160

in maine we've had planetary earth

74

00:02:37,750 --> 00:02:35,840

science training

75

00:02:39,990 --> 00:02:37,760

we've had some outdoor leadership

76

00:02:42,390 --> 00:02:40,000

training within knolls course all really

77

00:02:44,710 --> 00:02:42,400

outstanding aspects to

78

00:02:46,710 --> 00:02:44,720

get us into the groove for learning how

79

00:02:47,990 --> 00:02:46,720

to function here at nasa and in the

80

00:02:50,070 --> 00:02:48,000

astronaut office and eventually

81

00:02:51,750 --> 00:02:50,080

preparing us toward flight we've had a

82

00:02:54,309 --> 00:02:51,760

lot of classes on the international

83

00:02:55,670 --> 00:02:54,319

space station systems and sciences so

84

00:02:57,270 --> 00:02:55,680

learning how all the different

85

00:02:58,790 --> 00:02:57,280

components of the space station work

86

00:03:00,390 --> 00:02:58,800

together in order to support everything

87

00:03:01,990 --> 00:03:00,400

that's going on up there and so we've

88

00:03:03,350 --> 00:03:02,000

started with our extra vehicular our

89

00:03:05,509 --> 00:03:03,360

spacesuit training and the neutral

90

00:03:07,110 --> 00:03:05,519

buoyancy lab as well and that's been

91

00:03:08,390 --> 00:03:07,120

truly amazing you know you're in there

92

00:03:10,550 --> 00:03:08,400

and you're operating and you're trying

93

00:03:12,229 --> 00:03:10,560

to get your job done and do a good job

94

00:03:13,910 --> 00:03:12,239

and then you sometimes have to stop for

95

00:03:16,630 --> 00:03:13,920

a second and look back or look over at

96

00:03:18,949 --> 00:03:16,640

your buddy and say oh wow he's in a

97

00:03:20,550 --> 00:03:18,959

spacesuit i'm in a space suit too and so

98

00:03:22,949 --> 00:03:20,560

that that's really a dream come true

99

00:03:24,470 --> 00:03:22,959

it's been a really very very challenging

100

00:03:26,070 --> 00:03:24,480

part of the job but a very rewarding

101
00:03:27,830 --> 00:03:26,080
part of the job as well the thing that i

102
00:03:29,910 --> 00:03:27,840
like the most is that our training is so

103
00:03:32,149 --> 00:03:29,920
diverse we're not just sitting in our

104
00:03:33,910 --> 00:03:32,159
office behind a computer all day we're

105
00:03:35,750 --> 00:03:33,920
doing different things active things

106
00:03:37,750 --> 00:03:35,760
operational things different things each

107
00:03:39,750 --> 00:03:37,760
day and i think that really keeps us

108
00:03:41,110 --> 00:03:39,760
excited and interested and of course i

109
00:03:42,789 --> 00:03:41,120
mean these are things that most people

110
00:03:44,470 --> 00:03:42,799
dream about doing so we're incredibly

111
00:03:46,390 --> 00:03:44,480
fortunate to have the opportunity to do

112
00:03:48,470 --> 00:03:46,400
all these things i really enjoy the

113
00:03:51,110 --> 00:03:48,480

flight training aspect i wanted to be a

114

00:03:52,869 --> 00:03:51,120

pilot from the time i was a kid as well

115

00:03:54,229 --> 00:03:52,879

and since i didn't join the military i

116

00:03:55,910 --> 00:03:54,239

never thought i'd have the opportunity

117

00:03:57,509 --> 00:03:55,920

to fly jets

118

00:03:59,910 --> 00:03:57,519

but i did decide to get my private

119

00:04:01,589 --> 00:03:59,920

pilot's license and i started that even

120

00:04:04,070 --> 00:04:01,599

back in college and finished it while i

121

00:04:05,589 --> 00:04:04,080

was working here and got my private

122

00:04:08,229 --> 00:04:05,599

pilot's license in my instrument rating

123

00:04:10,309 --> 00:04:08,239

and really enjoyed flying um just in the