

*Happy Thanksgiving*



FROM **EXPEDITION 53**  
**AND THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION**

1  
00:00:25,830 --> 00:00:22,870  
uh certainly uh

2  
00:00:27,589 --> 00:00:25,840  
yeah fond memories from my childhood

3  
00:00:29,269 --> 00:00:27,599  
and the family always getting together

4  
00:00:31,269 --> 00:00:29,279  
at thanksgiving but when i went away to

5  
00:00:32,310 --> 00:00:31,279  
college at 17 it suddenly became a lot

6  
00:00:34,470 --> 00:00:32,320  
more

7  
00:00:36,150 --> 00:00:34,480  
meaningful as i then you know finished

8  
00:00:37,510 --> 00:00:36,160  
college and joined the marine corps and

9  
00:00:39,190 --> 00:00:37,520  
i wasn't home that much for

10  
00:00:41,190 --> 00:00:39,200  
thanksgivings you know deployed

11  
00:00:42,549 --> 00:00:41,200  
somewhere around the world or somewhere

12  
00:00:43,910 --> 00:00:42,559  
with the marine corps

13  
00:00:45,670 --> 00:00:43,920

coming home and seeing all the family

14

00:00:47,830 --> 00:00:45,680

and things that made it extra special

15

00:00:49,990 --> 00:00:47,840

but for me now with a

16

00:00:51,510 --> 00:00:50,000

seven-year-old and eleven-year-old

17

00:00:53,750 --> 00:00:51,520

the memories that i have that i

18

00:00:54,470 --> 00:00:53,760

appreciate the most

19

00:00:56,470 --> 00:00:54,480

are

20

00:00:58,950 --> 00:00:56,480

you know hearing them that thanksgiving

21

00:01:00,389 --> 00:00:58,960

day when they say their prayers and say

22

00:01:02,310 --> 00:01:00,399

hey god here's here's what i'm thankful

23

00:01:03,990 --> 00:01:02,320

for this year and just the innocence of

24

00:01:06,550 --> 00:01:04,000

what they say about that year is just

25

00:01:07,510 --> 00:01:06,560

very very special

26

00:01:09,350 --> 00:01:07,520

my

27

00:01:12,310 --> 00:01:09,360

fond memories of thanksgiving certainly

28

00:01:14,550 --> 00:01:12,320

in childhood involve some delicious

29

00:01:17,109 --> 00:01:14,560

pumpkin pie that my mom made

30

00:01:18,789 --> 00:01:17,119

and taking the time out with my extended

31

00:01:21,109 --> 00:01:18,799

family to

32

00:01:23,109 --> 00:01:21,119

think about and share those all those

33

00:01:25,109 --> 00:01:23,119

things that we're very grateful for

34

00:01:26,469 --> 00:01:25,119

and then with my children i have very

35

00:01:28,630 --> 00:01:26,479

fond memories of doing the same thing

36

00:01:30,710 --> 00:01:28,640

with them and also since we've lived in

37

00:01:33,030 --> 00:01:30,720

houston for a while which is a very

38

00:01:34,469 --> 00:01:33,040

different climate than minnesota

39

00:01:36,630 --> 00:01:34,479

our thanksgiving in houston have

40

00:01:38,230 --> 00:01:36,640

involved sitting outside with neighbors

41

00:01:41,109 --> 00:01:38,240

and sharing

42

00:01:43,190 --> 00:01:41,119

the nice weather this this time of year

43

00:01:44,710 --> 00:01:43,200

with our neighbors and having a large

44

00:01:47,830 --> 00:01:44,720

communal dinner with the people that

45

00:01:49,109 --> 00:01:47,840

live next door outside

46

00:01:50,950 --> 00:01:49,119

so uh

47

00:01:52,870 --> 00:01:50,960

fond memories of thanksgiving of course

48

00:01:55,190 --> 00:01:52,880

is uh you know hanging out with the

49

00:01:57,429 --> 00:01:55,200

family and just

50

00:02:00,230 --> 00:01:57,439

you know eating as much as we can but it

51

00:02:02,709 --> 00:02:00,240

really it's the whole process of

52

00:02:04,789 --> 00:02:02,719

preparing the food naps are good we

53

00:02:07,350 --> 00:02:04,799

enjoy that part of it too but in my

54

00:02:08,949 --> 00:02:07,360

house we always had thanksgiving late

55

00:02:11,270 --> 00:02:08,959

which i think most people have their

56

00:02:12,229 --> 00:02:11,280

thanksgiving at maybe noon so then you

57

00:02:14,550 --> 00:02:12,239

can eat

58

00:02:16,470 --> 00:02:14,560

take a nap and then eat again but my dad

59

00:02:18,150 --> 00:02:16,480

liked to have it late in the day so you

60

00:02:19,350 --> 00:02:18,160

ate and then you were done you know you

61

00:02:20,550 --> 00:02:19,360

had the dessert and it was time to go to

62

00:02:21,750 --> 00:02:20,560

bed so

63

00:02:23,110 --> 00:02:21,760

seeing these other traditions kind of

64

00:02:26,790 --> 00:02:23,120

nice so you can get that little nap in

65

00:02:31,670 --> 00:02:29,510

and uh of course i'm italian and we

66

00:02:33,670 --> 00:02:31,680

don't have thanksgiving so

67

00:02:35,350 --> 00:02:33,680

it's not that we don't say thanks but we

68

00:02:37,110 --> 00:02:35,360

don't have the the celebration of

69

00:02:39,030 --> 00:02:37,120

thanksgiving i was exposed the first

70

00:02:41,750 --> 00:02:39,040

time to thanksgiving when i went to

71

00:02:44,150 --> 00:02:41,760

college in the united states in new york

72

00:02:45,670 --> 00:02:44,160

and my university of course closed there

73

00:02:48,390 --> 00:02:45,680

for the thanksgiving period but they

74

00:02:49,750 --> 00:02:48,400

would organize a thanksgiving dinner for

75

00:02:51,670 --> 00:02:49,760

all the foreign students because they

76  
00:02:53,509 --> 00:02:51,680  
felt they're missing out some things and

77  
00:02:54,710 --> 00:02:53,519  
i was kind of like the first time i was

78  
00:02:58,869 --> 00:02:54,720  
kind of like

79  
00:03:01,350 --> 00:02:58,879  
you know you have to have the turkey you

80  
00:03:03,750 --> 00:03:01,360  
have to have all the all the stuff

81  
00:03:06,070 --> 00:03:03,760  
inside you have to have the yams and all

82  
00:03:08,550 --> 00:03:06,080  
these kind of things and i learned then

83  
00:03:10,070 --> 00:03:08,560  
about all the tradition about food but

84  
00:03:11,990 --> 00:03:10,080  
also about getting together and of

85  
00:03:13,190 --> 00:03:12,000  
course my family was not there they were

86  
00:03:15,350 --> 00:03:13,200  
in italy

87  
00:03:16,869 --> 00:03:15,360  
but we as foreign students we create our

88  
00:03:18,390 --> 00:03:16,879

own family and it was really really

89

00:03:20,229 --> 00:03:18,400

interesting and i think

90

00:03:23,430 --> 00:03:20,239

i appreciate it started appreciated the

91

00:03:25,910 --> 00:03:23,440

significance of this uh festivity of

92

00:03:28,149 --> 00:03:25,920

this celebration and since then i've

93

00:03:35,750 --> 00:03:28,159

been doing it even though it's not one

94

00:03:38,550 --> 00:03:36,789

so i think

95

00:03:40,390 --> 00:03:38,560

being up on the space station is a

96

00:03:42,869 --> 00:03:40,400

pretty cool place to span

97

00:03:44,070 --> 00:03:42,879

thanksgiving i mean it makes for a great

98

00:03:46,789 --> 00:03:44,080

story would you have your last

99

00:03:48,470 --> 00:03:46,799

thanksgiving well up in space and being

100

00:03:50,070 --> 00:03:48,480

with you guys is going to be uh pretty

101

00:03:52,949 --> 00:03:50,080

cool i think we have a lot to be

102

00:03:54,710 --> 00:03:52,959

thankful for the opportunity to be here

103

00:03:56,869 --> 00:03:54,720

we have great families that support us

104

00:03:59,190 --> 00:03:56,879

being up here so i think that part of

105

00:04:01,190 --> 00:03:59,200

thanksgiving is not going to change and

106

00:04:03,589 --> 00:04:01,200

if you look at i think a lot of us in

107

00:04:05,350 --> 00:04:03,599

the training and like randy said earlier

108

00:04:07,750 --> 00:04:05,360

a lot of us because of the military

109

00:04:10,070 --> 00:04:07,760

background being an astronaut we've been

110

00:04:12,789 --> 00:04:10,080

away from home quite a bit so

111

00:04:14,710 --> 00:04:12,799

um i remember lots of thanksgiving in

112

00:04:16,150 --> 00:04:14,720

star city which is you know everybody

113

00:04:17,830 --> 00:04:16,160

getting together and having the big

114

00:04:20,229 --> 00:04:17,840

thanksgiving feast in russia which is

115

00:04:28,710 --> 00:04:20,239

pretty neat but doing it up here i think

116

00:04:32,629 --> 00:04:30,950

i agree i think uh being any place where

117

00:04:34,310 --> 00:04:32,639

you're surrounded by friends really

118

00:04:36,310 --> 00:04:34,320

makes thanksgiving special and we

119

00:04:38,150 --> 00:04:36,320

certainly have that going on up here

120

00:04:39,990 --> 00:04:38,160

um it's also for me it's really

121

00:04:40,790 --> 00:04:40,000

important to remember

122

00:04:43,350 --> 00:04:40,800

um

123

00:04:45,270 --> 00:04:43,360

the other groups of people like in the

124

00:04:47,830 --> 00:04:45,280

military that are deployed away from

125

00:04:49,590 --> 00:04:47,840

home for thanksgiving in much

126

00:04:50,790 --> 00:04:49,600

uh in places where

127

00:04:52,629 --> 00:04:50,800

everybody surrounding them aren't

128

00:04:54,710 --> 00:04:52,639

necessarily looking out for their safety

129

00:04:57,749 --> 00:04:54,720

all the time certainly the people that

130

00:04:59,749 --> 00:04:57,759

uh are serving with them in the military

131

00:05:01,749 --> 00:04:59,759

are looking out for their safety but

132

00:05:03,590 --> 00:05:01,759

they can be some dangerous environments

133

00:05:06,870 --> 00:05:03,600

so we certainly want to make sure that

134

00:05:07,670 --> 00:05:06,880

we think about them and pray for them

135

00:05:09,590 --> 00:05:07,680

and

136

00:05:11,189 --> 00:05:09,600

but we look being up here

137

00:05:12,870 --> 00:05:11,199

away from my family

138

00:05:14,950 --> 00:05:12,880

we will uh

139

00:05:16,469 --> 00:05:14,960

try to connect that day certainly with

140

00:05:18,070 --> 00:05:16,479

phone calls and we'll share what we're

141

00:05:19,590 --> 00:05:18,080

doing and they'll share

142

00:05:21,189 --> 00:05:19,600

share what they're doing and we'll be

143

00:05:24,710 --> 00:05:21,199

able to try to make it still a joint

144

00:05:26,310 --> 00:05:24,720

holiday with our families that way

145

00:05:27,990 --> 00:05:26,320

we're not home but we're not that far

146

00:05:29,909 --> 00:05:28,000

away from home and you know in my

147

00:05:31,670 --> 00:05:29,919

travels in the past year i've been

148

00:05:33,909 --> 00:05:31,680

really far away and i could not talk to

149

00:05:36,070 --> 00:05:33,919

them we are fortunate here we can still

150

00:05:38,070 --> 00:05:36,080

talk to them we can still see them and

151

00:05:40,469 --> 00:05:38,080

i'm pretty sure we will celebrate this

152

00:05:41,270 --> 00:05:40,479

thanksgiving festivity

153

00:05:44,469 --> 00:05:41,280

uh

154

00:05:46,469 --> 00:05:44,479

far away but close and on top of that

155

00:05:48,469 --> 00:05:46,479

you know this is really a family so i

156

00:05:50,710 --> 00:05:48,479

could not have asked for a better place

157

00:05:54,070 --> 00:05:50,720

or a better people to celebrate this

158

00:05:58,550 --> 00:05:55,670

certainly our space family makes it

159

00:06:01,029 --> 00:05:58,560

special um to be up here and uh you know

160

00:06:02,390 --> 00:06:01,039

i echo everything that everybody said

161

00:06:03,830 --> 00:06:02,400

about

162

00:06:05,590 --> 00:06:03,840

the fact that

163

00:06:07,430 --> 00:06:05,600

you know we'll appreciate

164

00:06:09,270 --> 00:06:07,440

the next thanksgiving with our families

165

00:06:11,430 --> 00:06:09,280

that much more having missed this one

166

00:06:12,550 --> 00:06:11,440

and uh our hearts and prayers go out to

167

00:06:14,629 --> 00:06:12,560

those that are

168

00:06:16,550 --> 00:06:14,639

serving our country not at home for this

169

00:06:17,990 --> 00:06:16,560

thanksgiving and that they are able to

170

00:06:20,550 --> 00:06:18,000

make it special where they are just like

171

00:06:22,550 --> 00:06:20,560

we're going to

172

00:06:24,390 --> 00:06:22,560

we don't have anything remarkably

173

00:06:26,469 --> 00:06:24,400

special for thanksgiving but we've saved

174

00:06:28,390 --> 00:06:26,479

up a few things

175

00:06:30,790 --> 00:06:28,400

got some mashed potatoes are always good

176  
00:06:32,950 --> 00:06:30,800  
for thanksgiving

177  
00:06:35,670 --> 00:06:32,960  
joe's i think got some

178  
00:06:37,350 --> 00:06:35,680  
some turkey uh paulo's

179  
00:06:40,790 --> 00:06:37,360  
cornbread dressing

180  
00:06:42,550 --> 00:06:40,800  
and uh and sabo's got the candied yams

181  
00:06:44,150 --> 00:06:42,560  
and so these are all things that uh

182  
00:06:45,830 --> 00:06:44,160  
remind us a little bit of home and kind

183  
00:06:47,749 --> 00:06:45,840  
of traditional i

184  
00:06:49,670 --> 00:06:47,759  
i think a lot of us yeah cran apple

185  
00:06:52,390 --> 00:06:49,680  
dessert we've got that available joe's

186  
00:06:53,830 --> 00:06:52,400  
got some apple cider you guys

187  
00:06:54,710 --> 00:06:53,840  
that's your drinking water we'll have

188  
00:06:57,029 --> 00:06:54,720

yep

189

00:06:58,469 --> 00:06:57,039

and certainly uh the thought of a

190

00:07:00,469 --> 00:06:58,479

home-cooked meal is something that

191

00:07:03,189 --> 00:07:00,479

really appeals to me because my wife is

192

00:07:05,749 --> 00:07:03,199

a phenomenal cook like my mother was

193

00:07:07,270 --> 00:07:05,759

and like joe mentioned the process of

194

00:07:09,029 --> 00:07:07,280

the day of thanksgiving and preparing

195

00:07:09,909 --> 00:07:09,039

everything is something that

196

00:07:12,790 --> 00:07:09,919

just

197

00:07:14,950 --> 00:07:12,800

i look forward to the next time

198

00:07:16,950 --> 00:07:14,960

well we will organize a dinner with all

199

00:07:19,189 --> 00:07:16,960

the all the other people right uh we'll

200

00:07:20,870 --> 00:07:19,199

celebrate this uh festivity on board

201  
00:07:22,629 --> 00:07:20,880  
while we'll talk to our family and

202  
00:07:24,550 --> 00:07:22,639  
everything like this but i'm pretty sure

203  
00:07:26,469 --> 00:07:24,560  
in the evening we will uh we'll have

204  
00:07:27,430 --> 00:07:26,479  
dinner together pull out all these

205  
00:07:29,510 --> 00:07:27,440  
things

206  
00:07:31,029 --> 00:07:29,520  
and celebrate right

207  
00:07:32,469 --> 00:07:31,039  
and certainly you know we our russian

208  
00:07:34,309 --> 00:07:32,479  
colleagues have us down for russian

209  
00:07:36,629 --> 00:07:34,319  
holidays and we learn their traditions

210  
00:07:38,230 --> 00:07:36,639  
and uh customs and so certainly we'll be

211  
00:07:39,589 --> 00:07:38,240  
welcoming them and be thankful for their

212  
00:07:42,550 --> 00:07:39,599  
presence here and their contribution

213  
00:07:46,309 --> 00:07:42,560

here on the on the iss