

083



1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,950

Music

2
00:00:07,950 --> 00:00:10,430

NARRATOR: Space shuttle Atlantis took a final bow for the space shuttle program at NASA's

3
00:00:10,430 --> 00:00:14,110

Kennedy Space Center on Friday, Nov. 2.

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00:00:14,110 --> 00:00:18,590

Crowds of workers, NASA officials, astronauts and enthusiasts cheered the spacecraft

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00:00:18,590 --> 00:00:22,440

through a 10-mile move to its new home.

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00:00:22,440 --> 00:00:27,080

Atlantis, which flew the final mission of the Space Shuttle Era in July 2011,

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00:00:27,080 --> 00:00:31,820

was also the last orbiter to leave Kennedy Space Center launch facilities.

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00:00:31,820 --> 00:00:39,500

Discovery flew to Washington, D.C. in April and Endeavour left in September for Los Angeles.

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00:00:39,500 --> 00:00:44,050

As with the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo spacecraft before them, all three shuttles

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00:00:44,050 --> 00:00:48,730

will be prominently displayed as machines of inspiration in their retirements.

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00:00:48,730 --> 00:00:54,060

Charles Bolden, NASA Administrator: Godspeed, Atlantis, on your next mission of inspiration

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00:00:54,060 --> 00:01:00,550

and motivation. Atlantis' final mission may have closed out the space shuttle program,

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00:01:00,550 --> 00:01:06,190

but the spirit that created that program and built her is very much alive.

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00:01:06,190 --> 00:01:10,920

The space shuttle program has been a proud achievement for our nation.

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00:01:10,920 --> 00:01:15,320

NARRATOR: Atlantis began the morning in the familiar surroundings of the Vehicle Assembly Building

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00:01:15,320 --> 00:01:19,920

at Kennedy Space Center, the landmark structure that oversaw the assembly of shuttles into

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00:01:19,920 --> 00:01:22,630

their launch configuration.

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00:01:22,630 --> 00:01:27,160

Riding atop the 76 wheels of the orbiter transporter system, the shuttle was

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00:01:27,160 --> 00:01:33,420

taken past the processing hangars that serviced NASA's fleet of winged spacecraft between flights.

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00:01:33,420 --> 00:01:37,990

Then Atlantis was carried down Kennedy Parkway to a waiting assembly near the center's

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00:01:37,990 --> 00:01:44,950

headquarters. A high school band provided a festive flourish as the spacecraft pulled into view.

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00:01:44,950 --> 00:01:51,930

Bob Cabana, Kennedy Space Center Director: Atlantis now takes on a mission of inspiration to future generations.

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00:01:51,930 --> 00:01:57,040

NARRATOR: Atlantis was formally signed into retirement by NASA's senior managers before continuing

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00:01:57,040 --> 00:02:01,960

its daylong trek. The shuttle maneuvered down the roads of Kennedy until

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00:02:01,960 --> 00:02:09,260

it moved past the Space Life Sciences Laboratory and onto a developing property known as Exploration Park.

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00:02:09,260 --> 00:02:14,520

Here, on a vacant stretch of land planned to house research work in the future,

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00:02:14,520 --> 00:02:21,930

Atlantis was celebrated by thousands of visitors, former shuttle workers and well-wishers.

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00:02:21,930 --> 00:02:28,430

Rolling out of Exploration Park, Atlantis covered last leg during the late afternoon led by

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00:02:28,430 --> 00:02:31,420

an esteemed gathering of veteran astronauts.

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00:02:31,420 --> 00:02:36,840

The shuttle pulled in front of its new home near sunset, setting the stage for a celebratory