



1
00:00:00,290 --> 00:00:06,270

Hello, and thank you for joining us today
to recognize Kennedy Space Center's 60th

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00:00:06,270 --> 00:00:07,270
anniversary!

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00:00:07,270 --> 00:00:11,480
If you have lived here on the Space Coast
for any amount of time, you know what Kennedy

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00:00:11,480 --> 00:00:14,980
Space Center means to the folks in Central
Florida.

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00:00:14,980 --> 00:00:19,470
Whether it was taking a tour of the center
during an elementary school field trip, getting

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00:00:19,470 --> 00:00:24,820
startled by an unexpected sonic boom when
a spacecraft returned, or standing outside

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00:00:24,820 --> 00:00:30,580
in the Florida sunshine and watching the flame
of a booster disappear into the clouds, almost

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00:00:30,580 --> 00:00:36,210
anyone you meet around here will have a memory
that ties them to the work we do here every

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00:00:36,210 --> 00:00:37,210
day.

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00:00:37,210 --> 00:00:38,680
I'm no different.

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00:00:38,680 --> 00:00:43,550
As you may know, my family moved to Florida

when my dad took a job supporting the Apollo

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00:00:43,550 --> 00:00:50,480

program in the early 60s, just after Kennedy
Space Center was established to meet the audacious

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00:00:50,480 --> 00:00:55,700

goal of landing a human on the Moon and returning
him safely to Earth.

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00:00:55,700 --> 00:01:00,750

Some of my fondest childhood memories are
standing on Satellite Beach with my eyes to

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00:01:00,750 --> 00:01:06,460

the sky, watching the launches that were literally
making history.

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00:01:06,460 --> 00:01:13,130

For six decades, NASA has turned science fiction
into science fact, and every single mission

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00:01:13,130 --> 00:01:18,610

launched from this center is intended to benefit
life right here on Earth.

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00:01:18,610 --> 00:01:25,620

More than 250 robotic spacecraft have ventured
into space since we began exploring beyond

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00:01:25,620 --> 00:01:31,820

our atmosphere, each one teaching us a little
more about our solar system and what lies

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00:01:31,820 --> 00:01:33,200

beyond.

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00:01:33,200 --> 00:01:39,340

Closer to our planet, Earth-facing satellites
help better monitor climate, track dangerous

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00:01:39,340 --> 00:01:42,290

storms, and survey the planet's surface.

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00:01:42,290 --> 00:01:48,400

And our International Space Station has supported a wide portfolio of science and continuous

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00:01:48,400 --> 00:01:54,890

human presence on orbit for more than 20 years, enabling groundbreaking medical and technological

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00:01:54,890 --> 00:02:00,610

research that not only impacts life here on Earth, but paves the way for future human

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00:02:00,610 --> 00:02:04,869

exploration beyond low-Earth orbit.

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00:02:04,869 --> 00:02:10,940

And this year, half a century after the last human stepped foot on the lunar surface, Kennedy

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00:02:10,940 --> 00:02:18,389

is once again rising to meet another audacious goal--launching Artemis I. Through Artemis,

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00:02:18,389 --> 00:02:24,450

the first woman and first person of color will step on the Moon and establish a long-term

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00:02:24,450 --> 00:02:30,090

human presence that will serve as the proving ground for the science and technology that

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00:02:30,090 --> 00:02:33,970

will pave the way for exploration to Mars.

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00:02:33,970 --> 00:02:38,569

As we celebrate this diamond anniversary,
I can't help but think back to the early

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00:02:38,569 --> 00:02:43,549
days of Kennedy and what it must have felt
like to embrace the challenge of making the

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00:02:43,549 --> 00:02:45,950
impossible possible.

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00:02:45,950 --> 00:02:52,109
I think about the pride my dad must have felt
as he helped land the first human on the Moon—the

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00:02:52,109 --> 00:02:57,239
same pride I feel as I look around this center
and see the incredible work that this team

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00:02:57,239 --> 00:03:00,840
is doing to further the NASA legacy.

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00:03:00,840 --> 00:03:06,590
The same pride I feel as I look at the accomplishments
of the last 60 years, and the impact they

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00:03:06,590 --> 00:03:09,879
have had on generations of Americans.

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00:03:09,879 --> 00:03:16,930
And the same pride I feel as I think of you—the
story tellers who have helped tell OUR story,

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00:03:16,930 --> 00:03:22,269
who have documented these moments for future
generations, and in doing so, have inspired

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00:03:22,269 --> 00:03:24,190
the nation.

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00:03:24,190 --> 00:03:29,129

Thank you for celebrating with us, and thank
you for continuing to partner with Kennedy