



1

00:00:06,830 --> 00:00:11,799

"My name is Nadra Hatchett, I'm an aerospace engineering working in the Office of the Center

2

00:00:11,799 --> 00:00:14,620

Director at the Marshall Space Flight Center.

3

00:00:14,620 --> 00:00:17,360

My first memory of NASA was in the 8th grade.

4

00:00:17,360 --> 00:00:23,920

I remember going to the Space & Rocket Center.

5

00:00:23,920 --> 00:00:26,550

It was a field trip.

6

00:00:26,550 --> 00:00:35,870

Soon after, though, I remember hearing the testing of the engines and feeling the vibrations

7

00:00:35,870 --> 00:00:38,250

because my church was really near the arsenal.

8

00:00:38,250 --> 00:00:42,110

I felt all of that and that really intrigued me.

9

00:00:42,110 --> 00:00:44,309

I was really fascinated by the sounds.

10

00:00:44,309 --> 00:00:46,370

I had this vision of being an architect.

11

00:00:46,370 --> 00:00:51,110

I wanted to do urban planning, but I knew I just needed to get into college, so that's

12

00:00:51,110 --> 00:00:52,110

what I did.

13  
00:00:52,110 --> 00:00:56,080  
I just got in college and found my way toward NASA.

14  
00:00:56,080 --> 00:01:02,420  
One day, my instructor came up to me and asked me if I wanted to do a co-op with NASA.

15  
00:01:02,420 --> 00:01:04,540  
I said "yeah"!

16  
00:01:04,540 --> 00:01:11,980  
Got hired on as an intern, worked that for a little while and decided I wanted to go

17  
00:01:11,980 --> 00:01:12,980  
back to school.

18  
00:01:12,980 --> 00:01:20,440  
I went to Athens State, got a degree in mathematics with a minor in physics and, with my experience

19  
00:01:20,440 --> 00:01:28,500  
as a draftsman and with my math degree and physics minor, all of that put together allowed

20  
00:01:28,500 --> 00:01:31,610  
me to become an aerospace engineer.

21  
00:01:31,610 --> 00:01:32,610  
Who would've thought it.

22  
00:01:32,610 --> 00:01:34,870  
I didn't plan it, it just happened that way.

23  
00:01:34,870 --> 00:01:40,660  
I love the fact that you start out with blueprints

and ended up with hardware.

24

00:01:40,660 --> 00:01:42,210

I love the whole process.

25

00:01:42,210 --> 00:01:46,750

I love working with the guys in the machine shop.

26

00:01:46,750 --> 00:01:51,950

My children ask lots of questions and every day when they were little they would ask 'What

27

00:01:51,950 --> 00:01:53,870

are you going to do, mom?

28

00:01:53,870 --> 00:01:55,220

Where are you going?'

29

00:01:55,220 --> 00:01:58,760

I would let them know I'm going to NASA.

30

00:01:58,760 --> 00:02:03,659

At the time, the space shuttle is what we had to get to the space station.

31

00:02:03,659 --> 00:02:08,110

They knew about the space station because I always brought pictures and I always shared

32

00:02:08,110 --> 00:02:10,410

what I did through pictures.

33

00:02:10,410 --> 00:02:15,530

I would always tell them 'I'm at work doing things to get things up to the space station,

34

00:02:15,530 --> 00:02:19,760

so all of our experiments, not all of them

but a lot of them, get a chance to go up to

35  
00:02:19,760 --> 00:02:24,790  
help the astronauts experiment to make things  
better for you.'

36  
00:02:24,790 --> 00:02:31,500  
The people who influenced me the most in my  
career, in my life, are my parents.

37  
00:02:31,500 --> 00:02:37,120  
They always taught me that God created all  
of us equal, no matter what color we are,

38  
00:02:37,120 --> 00:02:41,970  
no matter what's going on in the world, no  
matter what's on the news, the truth is God

39  
00:02:41,970 --> 00:02:44,790  
created all of us equal.

40  
00:02:44,790 --> 00:02:46,010  
Get along with people.

41  
00:02:46,010 --> 00:02:47,730  
Love people.

42  
00:02:47,730 --> 00:02:48,880  
Smile at people.

43  
00:02:48,880 --> 00:02:50,400  
Show them you're friendly.

44  
00:02:50,400 --> 00:02:54,099  
If you show them that you're friendly, they'll  
be friendly back.

45  
00:02:54,099 --> 00:02:55,430  
It's human nature.

46  
00:02:55,430 --> 00:03:00,850  
I think it's important to celebrate Black  
History Month because I believe the more you

47  
00:03:00,850 --> 00:03:06,830  
understand people, the race, the struggles  
that people have gone through, the better

48  
00:03:06,830 --> 00:03:09,489  
and easier it is to work with them.

49  
00:03:09,489 --> 00:03:17,760  
It's human nature to want to know people and  
when you have the black history programs and

50  
00:03:17,760 --> 00:03:25,940  
when you celebrate it, it gives us a sense  
of pride that we've had some people struggle

51  
00:03:25,940 --> 00:03:28,590  
through to make it better for us.

52  
00:03:28,590 --> 00:03:33,380  
When I look at black history, I look at Rosa  
Parks.

53  
00:03:33,380 --> 00:03:39,440  
I look at the fact that she took a stand and  
that stance is the reason why I have this

54  
00:03:39,440 --> 00:03:40,440  
job.

55  
00:03:40,440 --> 00:03:44,599  
It's the reason why I'm able to do the things  
that I wouldn't have normally been able to