



1
00:00:15,890 --> 00:00:13,610
for Apollo 16 astronauts yawn and during

2
00:00:18,500 --> 00:00:15,900
the lunar rover was a valuable tool

3
00:00:21,200 --> 00:00:18,510
allowing them to explore greater areas

4
00:00:23,480 --> 00:00:21,210
of the main service but to millions of

5
00:00:26,480 --> 00:00:23,490
Americans watching from Earth it looked

6
00:00:29,300 --> 00:00:26,490
like just plain fun everyone wanted to

7
00:00:32,420 --> 00:00:29,310
take the rover for a ride Tom would

8
00:00:35,120 --> 00:00:32,430
certainly but for a stronger reason here

9
00:00:38,030 --> 00:00:35,130
was a vehicle that took only one hand to

10
00:00:40,130 --> 00:00:38,040
offer a nineteen seventy or mobile

11
00:00:42,830 --> 00:00:40,140
accident left Tom partially paralyzed

12
00:00:44,930 --> 00:00:42,840
his dream of having a single stick

13
00:00:47,529 --> 00:00:44,940

control system like the Rovers for his

14

00:00:50,479 --> 00:00:47,539

own vehicle began to take shape in March

15

00:00:52,610 --> 00:00:50,489

1974 when he and his wife Shirley were

16

00:00:55,850 --> 00:00:52,620

invited to NASA's Johnson Space Center

17

00:00:57,950 --> 00:00:55,860

in Houston Texas tom was accustomed to

18

00:01:01,490 --> 00:00:57,960

the idea of driving with one hand that's

19

00:01:03,619 --> 00:01:01,500

exactly how his wheelchair worked the

20

00:01:05,630 --> 00:01:03,629

only modification required on the rover

21

00:01:08,450 --> 00:01:05,640

was the addition of a simple metal

22

00:01:11,630 --> 00:01:08,460

support for his on toms notion proved

23

00:01:14,030 --> 00:01:11,640

correct he could indeed drive the rover

24

00:01:15,260 --> 00:01:14,040

inspired by Tom's performance NASA

25

00:01:17,630 --> 00:01:15,270

teamed up with the Veterans

26
00:01:19,430 --> 00:01:17,640
Administration and awarded a contract to

27
00:01:21,980 --> 00:01:19,440
the Johnson engineering corporation in

28
00:01:24,649 --> 00:01:21,990
Boulder Colorado what Johnson has

29
00:01:27,410 --> 00:01:24,659
developed with now 39 year old Tom warts

30
00:01:31,070 --> 00:01:27,420
his health is a system called the eunice

31
00:01:33,469 --> 00:01:31,080
take a 1981 ford van with a conventional

32
00:01:36,710 --> 00:01:33,479
wheelchair lift on the back is being

33
00:01:39,080 --> 00:01:36,720
used in the eunice tick project once

34
00:01:41,180 --> 00:01:39,090
inside the driver pushes a button which

35
00:01:49,040 --> 00:01:41,190
rolls the eunice tick control panel into

36
00:01:53,930 --> 00:01:49,050
place to start the van he just presses

37
00:01:56,660 --> 00:01:53,940
another button shifting works the same

38
00:01:59,389 --> 00:01:56,670

way moving the joystick forward

39

00:02:02,270 --> 00:01:59,399

accelerates the van how far it is moved

40

00:02:04,550 --> 00:02:02,280

determine speed sliding the stick left

41

00:02:07,310 --> 00:02:04,560

or right turns the van in the desired

42

00:02:09,949 --> 00:02:07,320

direction while pulling it back applies

43

00:02:11,600 --> 00:02:09,959

the brakes even people used to

44

00:02:14,390 --> 00:02:11,610

conventional steering wheels and pedals

45

00:02:16,370 --> 00:02:14,400

have said they actually prefer driving

46

00:02:19,250 --> 00:02:16,380

with the eunice ting after only a few

47

00:02:21,860 --> 00:02:19,260

hours of practice Andy kept drivers have

48

00:02:24,490 --> 00:02:21,870

been even more enthusiastic Johnson

49

00:02:27,140 --> 00:02:24,500

engineering vice president nancy dagger

50

00:02:29,390 --> 00:02:27,150

independence is a very very key thing

51
00:02:31,910 --> 00:02:29,400
for handicapped people and they see the

52
00:02:35,330 --> 00:02:31,920
ability to drive and being able to

53
00:02:38,840 --> 00:02:35,340
transport themselves as regaining

54
00:02:40,970 --> 00:02:38,850
independence that they've lost being

55
00:02:43,039 --> 00:02:40,980
able to do things on his own is exactly

56
00:02:45,750 --> 00:02:43,049
why tom words is so excited about the

57
00:02:49,920 --> 00:02:45,760
eunice take you liked it often

58
00:02:52,850 --> 00:02:49,930
go by yourself and do like used to play

59
00:02:58,500 --> 00:02:52,860
you got heard it just give you total

60
00:03:01,649 --> 00:02:58,510
freedom my independence I just really be

61
00:03:05,580 --> 00:03:01,659
happy when they got it all completed him

62
00:03:07,619 --> 00:03:05,590
out on the market Johnson engineering is

63
00:03:10,800 --> 00:03:07,629

now testing the units to make sure

64

00:03:12,990 --> 00:03:10,810

it consistently performs as designed so

65

00:03:15,059 --> 00:03:13,000

now a part of this van the system could

66

00:03:17,520 --> 00:03:15,069

be installed in just about any car or

67

00:03:19,289 --> 00:03:17,530

truck the hope is that Eunice tax will

68

00:03:27,750 --> 00:03:19,299

be commercially available by late

69

00:03:29,819 --> 00:03:27,760

nineteen eighty-seven it's been 14 years

70

00:03:31,800 --> 00:03:29,829

since the works is first saw the

71

00:03:34,410 --> 00:03:31,810

astronauts driving the rover on the moon

72

00:03:36,869 --> 00:03:34,420

and 12 years since they visited the

73

00:03:38,520 --> 00:03:36,879

Johnson Space Center in Houston but the

74

00:03:41,849 --> 00:03:38,530

whole experience has left a strong

75

00:03:43,589 --> 00:03:41,859

impression surely explained up until

76

00:03:46,830 --> 00:03:43,599

that point I think that we always felt

77

00:03:50,309 --> 00:03:46,840

that NASA was involved in the space

78

00:03:52,860 --> 00:03:50,319

program that was it and that would never

79

00:03:55,619 --> 00:03:52,870

affect us ever but now we know that

80

00:03:58,439 --> 00:03:55,629

their program gives us and everybody

81

00:04:00,330 --> 00:03:58,449

that's handicapped a chance to use some

82

00:04:01,860 --> 00:04:00,340

of their technology in our everyday

83

00:04:03,550 --> 00:04:01,870

lives that everybody else takes for

84

00:04:06,400 --> 00:04:03,560

granted

85

00:04:08,559 --> 00:04:06,410

the unis tick vehicle control helping

86

00:04:11,320 --> 00:04:08,569

handicapped people lead more independent