



1  
00:00:07,909 --> 00:00:03,350  
our second inductee today is lieutenant

2  
00:00:13,589 --> 00:00:09,790  
helms has logged

3  
00:00:15,829 --> 00:00:13,599  
5064 hours in space and holds the world

4  
00:00:18,630 --> 00:00:15,839  
record for the longest spacewalk at

5  
00:00:20,150 --> 00:00:18,640  
eight hours and 56 minutes i got that

6  
00:00:22,150 --> 00:00:20,160  
right right

7  
00:00:25,189 --> 00:00:22,160  
she's a veteran of five space shuttle

8  
00:00:27,910 --> 00:00:25,199  
missions from march to august 201st

9  
00:00:30,470 --> 00:00:27,920  
helms became the first woman to live and

10  
00:00:33,670 --> 00:00:30,480  
serve aboard the international space

11  
00:00:34,709 --> 00:00:33,680  
station as a member of the expedition 2

12  
00:00:39,270 --> 00:00:34,719  
crew

13  
00:00:41,750 --> 00:00:39,280

welcomed the first space tourist

14

00:00:45,990 --> 00:00:41,760

after a 12-year career with nasa that

15

00:00:48,229 --> 00:00:46,000

included 211 days in space helms

16

00:00:50,549 --> 00:00:48,239

returned to the united states air force

17

00:00:53,590 --> 00:00:50,559

in july 2002.

18

00:00:55,990 --> 00:00:53,600

in january of 2011 she became commander

19

00:01:00,150 --> 00:00:56,000

of the joint functional component

20

00:01:02,229 --> 00:01:00,160

command for space and 14th air force

21

00:01:48,789 --> 00:01:02,239

let's take a look now at some highlights

22

00:01:48,799 --> 00:02:29,910

is

23

00:02:33,430 --> 00:02:31,750

tonight's spacewalkers susan helms on

24

00:02:48,070 --> 00:02:33,440

the left jim voss on the right soon to

25

00:02:48,080 --> 00:03:09,430

make your touchdown

26

00:03:09,440 --> 00:03:24,710

so

27

00:03:28,630 --> 00:03:26,710

to present susan helms for induction

28

00:03:31,110 --> 00:03:28,640

into the united states astronaut hall of

29

00:03:34,070 --> 00:03:31,120

fame please welcome hall of fame

30

00:03:37,430 --> 00:03:34,080

astronaut and nasa administrator charles

31

00:03:40,229 --> 00:03:37,440

bolden thank you john thank you

32

00:03:44,390 --> 00:03:41,830

probably the happiest person here right

33

00:03:45,670 --> 00:03:44,400

now at least based on the look on his

34

00:03:47,350 --> 00:03:45,680

face

35

00:03:49,750 --> 00:03:47,360

is susan's dad over there it's

36

00:03:52,309 --> 00:03:49,760

incredible watching him as we go through

37

00:03:54,550 --> 00:03:52,319

this ceremony

38

00:03:57,030 --> 00:03:54,560

it's um

39

00:03:58,789 --> 00:03:57,040

it's an incredible honor for me this

40

00:04:00,789 --> 00:03:58,799

afternoon to introduce to you one of my

41

00:04:02,789 --> 00:04:00,799

heroes lieutenant general susan j helms

42

00:04:05,270 --> 00:04:02,799

united states air force

43

00:04:07,990 --> 00:04:05,280

john's already told you much about her

44

00:04:11,270 --> 00:04:08,000

official air force and nasa careers

45

00:04:14,789 --> 00:04:11,280

selected by nasa in january 1990 susan

46

00:04:20,390 --> 00:04:14,799

became an astronaut in july 1991.

47

00:04:25,030 --> 00:04:20,400

she flew on sts 54 in 93 sts 64 1994 sts

48

00:04:26,950 --> 00:04:25,040

78 1998 sts 101 2000 and served aboard

49

00:04:29,749 --> 00:04:26,960

the international space station as a

50

00:04:31,270 --> 00:04:29,759

member of the iss expedition 2 crew in

51

00:04:33,749 --> 00:04:31,280

2001

52

00:04:36,310 --> 00:04:33,759

a veteran of five flights she's logged

53

00:04:38,710 --> 00:04:36,320

over 5 000 hours in space including a

54

00:04:39,990 --> 00:04:38,720

world record eva of 8 hours and 56

55

00:04:42,629 --> 00:04:40,000

minutes as john

56

00:04:44,550 --> 00:04:42,639

uh just talked about her incredible

57

00:04:46,469 --> 00:04:44,560

talent and leadership ability became

58

00:04:49,270 --> 00:04:46,479

quite evident to me

59

00:04:51,110 --> 00:04:49,280

during her first flight sts 54

60

00:04:52,950 --> 00:04:51,120

on which she served as an iv or

61

00:04:54,710 --> 00:04:52,960

intervehicular crew member with

62

00:04:58,790 --> 00:04:54,720

responsibility for overseeing the

63

00:05:00,870 --> 00:04:58,800

conduct of the spacewalk on that flight

64

00:05:04,230 --> 00:05:00,880

having trained as an iv crew member

65

00:05:06,310 --> 00:05:04,240

crewman myself i watched in awe

66

00:05:07,830 --> 00:05:06,320

as she set the standard for iv crew

67

00:05:09,909 --> 00:05:07,840

members by the manner in which she

68

00:05:11,430 --> 00:05:09,919

perfectly and deftly choreographed the

69

00:05:12,950 --> 00:05:11,440

space walk

70

00:05:15,189 --> 00:05:12,960

under her direction

71

00:05:17,189 --> 00:05:15,199

we learned many lessons that would later

72

00:05:19,270 --> 00:05:17,199

prove key to construction of the

73

00:05:20,870 --> 00:05:19,280

international space station

74

00:05:22,230 --> 00:05:20,880

but enough of the technical side of

75

00:05:24,629 --> 00:05:22,240

susan

76

00:05:28,390 --> 00:05:24,639

let me share with you some of the jewels

77

00:05:30,310 --> 00:05:28,400

of her life from family and friends

78

00:05:32,310 --> 00:05:30,320

susan enjoys piano

79

00:05:36,230 --> 00:05:32,320

and other musical activities jogging

80

00:05:37,749 --> 00:05:36,240

traveling reading computers and cooking

81

00:05:39,830 --> 00:05:37,759

although susan will tell you she doesn't

82

00:05:41,430 --> 00:05:39,840

have time to cook anymore

83

00:05:42,870 --> 00:05:41,440

i remember when she checked into the

84

00:05:45,350 --> 00:05:42,880

astronaut office

85

00:05:47,909 --> 00:05:45,360

she joined the band max q

86

00:05:49,830 --> 00:05:47,919

singing lead vocals and playing keyboard

87

00:05:52,550 --> 00:05:49,840

and i'll have to tell you for anyone

88

00:05:55,270 --> 00:05:52,560

who's ever heard max q her addition to

89

00:05:59,270 --> 00:05:55,280

the band really helped bring them into

90

00:06:01,350 --> 00:05:59,280

the realm of playing real music

91

00:06:03,430 --> 00:06:01,360

susan is one of four sisters daughters

92

00:06:05,590 --> 00:06:03,440

to retired u.s air force lieutenant

93

00:06:08,629 --> 00:06:05,600

colonel pat and dory helms

94

00:06:11,029 --> 00:06:08,639

who reside in albuquerque new mexico

95

00:06:13,830 --> 00:06:11,039

the hall of fame class of 2001 is not

96

00:06:15,270 --> 00:06:13,840

only an all air force class in case you

97

00:06:17,110 --> 00:06:15,280

didn't notice it

98

00:06:19,189 --> 00:06:17,120

but it consists of two members who can

99

00:06:21,590 --> 00:06:19,199

claim firsts from the united states air

100

00:06:23,510 --> 00:06:21,600

force academy in colorado springs

101  
00:06:25,270 --> 00:06:23,520  
bo bobco as you've already heard was a

102  
00:06:27,749 --> 00:06:25,280  
member of the first graduating class of

103  
00:06:31,189 --> 00:06:27,759  
the academy in 1959

104  
00:06:34,550 --> 00:06:31,199  
and susan was one of 97 women to survive

105  
00:06:37,189 --> 00:06:34,560  
from a class of 157 women to graduate

106  
00:06:40,070 --> 00:06:37,199  
from the u.s air force academy in 1980

107  
00:06:49,270 --> 00:06:40,080  
the first class to ever graduate women

108  
00:06:53,029 --> 00:06:51,990  
according to her mom and dad dorian pat

109  
00:06:54,950 --> 00:06:53,039  
helms

110  
00:06:57,510 --> 00:06:54,960  
and this is a quote

111  
00:07:01,270 --> 00:06:57,520  
susan is the oldest of four daughters

112  
00:07:03,990 --> 00:07:01,280  
and was well-behaved quiet child

113  
00:07:06,870 --> 00:07:04,000

she taught herself to read early

114

00:07:08,469 --> 00:07:06,880

and dory says i think the dr zeus books

115

00:07:09,909 --> 00:07:08,479

and other books that were being read to

116

00:07:11,990 --> 00:07:09,919

her helped

117

00:07:13,670 --> 00:07:12,000

but she was six when i first took her to

118

00:07:15,189 --> 00:07:13,680

a public library

119

00:07:17,589 --> 00:07:15,199

i remember her standing in the middle of

120

00:07:19,589 --> 00:07:17,599

a room full of books and asking me two

121

00:07:21,909 --> 00:07:19,599

questions

122

00:07:22,710 --> 00:07:21,919

how many books may i take home

123

00:07:24,070 --> 00:07:22,720

and

124

00:07:25,029 --> 00:07:24,080

when i've read all the books in this

125

00:07:27,589 --> 00:07:25,039

room

126

00:07:29,670 --> 00:07:27,599

may i start over

127

00:07:31,990 --> 00:07:29,680

as a teenager her main extracurricular

128

00:07:33,909 --> 00:07:32,000

interests were in the music field

129

00:07:36,469 --> 00:07:33,919

susan was a percussionist in the band

130

00:07:38,950 --> 00:07:36,479

and a pianist for the swing choir

131

00:07:41,830 --> 00:07:38,960

however in the fall of her senior year

132

00:07:43,029 --> 00:07:41,840

she read in the october 1975 parade

133

00:07:44,790 --> 00:07:43,039

magazine

134

00:07:46,309 --> 00:07:44,800

that they had opened the u.s air force

135

00:07:48,950 --> 00:07:46,319

academy to women

136

00:07:50,309 --> 00:07:48,960

and decided she wanted to apply

137

00:07:53,430 --> 00:07:50,319

it was

138

00:07:56,070 --> 00:07:53,440

okay with her mom and dad

139

00:07:57,510 --> 00:07:56,080

though somewhat of a surprise

140

00:07:59,749 --> 00:07:57,520

she had the grades in the leadership

141

00:08:01,749 --> 00:07:59,759

skill but according to them she really

142

00:08:04,469 --> 00:08:01,759

wasn't a jock

143

00:08:06,869 --> 00:08:04,479

she just told us or told them

144

00:08:08,629 --> 00:08:06,879

that she would need to get in shape and

145

00:08:10,150 --> 00:08:08,639

that she did

146

00:08:12,150 --> 00:08:10,160

her father pat

147

00:08:15,990 --> 00:08:12,160

who took on the task recalls that her

148

00:08:19,189 --> 00:08:16,000

first mile of running took 16 minutes

149

00:08:22,070 --> 00:08:19,199

that's pretty good for me

150

00:08:23,830 --> 00:08:22,080

i don't know about the rest of you

151  
00:08:26,710 --> 00:08:23,840  
i would love to have a 16 minute mile

152  
00:08:28,230 --> 00:08:26,720  
today

153  
00:08:30,710 --> 00:08:28,240  
but when the time arrived for the

154  
00:08:32,870 --> 00:08:30,720  
necessary physical test in january she

155  
00:08:35,430 --> 00:08:32,880  
was doing an eight minute mile and that

156  
00:08:36,949 --> 00:08:35,440  
day did her first ever pull-up

157  
00:08:38,870 --> 00:08:36,959  
hearing this story of susan's

158  
00:08:41,589 --> 00:08:38,880  
conditioning makes it easier for me to

159  
00:08:43,190 --> 00:08:41,599  
understand the story told to me by her

160  
00:08:46,070 --> 00:08:43,200  
sister nancy

161  
00:08:48,389 --> 00:08:46,080  
as the story goes and this is a quote

162  
00:08:50,150 --> 00:08:48,399  
while visiting our family in 2004 or

163  
00:08:52,150 --> 00:08:50,160

2005

164

00:08:53,030 --> 00:08:52,160

susan asked if we minded if she took our

165

00:08:55,750 --> 00:08:53,040

dog

166

00:08:57,829 --> 00:08:55,760

a beagle named radar then six years old

167

00:08:59,829 --> 00:08:57,839

out for a jog

168

00:09:01,829 --> 00:08:59,839

of course we agreed my husband and i

169

00:09:03,269 --> 00:09:01,839

laughed and laughed while they were gone

170

00:09:05,509 --> 00:09:03,279

about whether susan would be able to

171

00:09:07,750 --> 00:09:05,519

keep up with the dog

172

00:09:10,470 --> 00:09:07,760

about 40 minutes later

173

00:09:12,230 --> 00:09:10,480

susan and radar returned from their run

174

00:09:15,590 --> 00:09:12,240

and we asked how it went

175

00:09:16,630 --> 00:09:15,600

in typical susan fashion she said fine

176

00:09:19,910 --> 00:09:16,640

well

177

00:09:21,829 --> 00:09:19,920

apparently radar had a different story

178

00:09:22,790 --> 00:09:21,839

he returned from the run and lay down on

179

00:09:24,550 --> 00:09:22,800

his bed

180

00:09:26,949 --> 00:09:24,560

radar didn't wait didn't get up for two

181

00:09:33,509 --> 00:09:30,870

we had no idea that susan was so fit

182

00:09:36,630 --> 00:09:33,519

she outran the dog

183

00:09:39,190 --> 00:09:36,640

now i personally love the story of radar

184

00:09:41,430 --> 00:09:39,200

and i must admit that it ended much much

185

00:09:42,550 --> 00:09:41,440

better than i ever imagined as i was

186

00:09:45,430 --> 00:09:42,560

reading it

187

00:09:47,910 --> 00:09:45,440

because every time i knew susan she was

188

00:09:49,590 --> 00:09:47,920

always in really good shape

189

00:09:51,030 --> 00:09:49,600

and so while we were in the astronaut

190

00:09:53,670 --> 00:09:51,040

office together as i was reading the

191

00:09:55,910 --> 00:09:53,680

story i expected to read that that susan

192

00:09:57,829 --> 00:09:55,920

would return holding the dog's dying

193

00:10:00,710 --> 00:09:57,839

body in her arms

194

00:10:02,949 --> 00:10:00,720

after she had run it into the ground

195

00:10:04,630 --> 00:10:02,959

the good thing is the story ended a lot

196

00:10:05,829 --> 00:10:04,640

better than that

197

00:10:07,910 --> 00:10:05,839

susan

198

00:10:09,990 --> 00:10:07,920

with mother's day coming up tomorrow

199

00:10:10,949 --> 00:10:10,000

your mom wanted me to add how special it

200

00:10:13,190 --> 00:10:10,959

was

201  
00:10:15,110 --> 00:10:13,200  
when you once wished her happy mother's

202  
00:10:18,230 --> 00:10:15,120  
day from space

203  
00:10:19,670 --> 00:10:18,240  
she also says i'll cry here

204  
00:10:21,750 --> 00:10:19,680  
she also says one of the biggest

205  
00:10:25,269 --> 00:10:21,760  
surprises of her life was during your

206  
00:10:28,150 --> 00:10:25,279  
space walk in march on march 11 2001

207  
00:10:29,190 --> 00:10:28,160  
when you paused and wished a happy 68th

208  
00:10:31,910 --> 00:10:29,200  
birthday

209  
00:10:33,190 --> 00:10:31,920  
in her words and i quote doesn't get any

210  
00:10:35,509 --> 00:10:33,200  
better than that

211  
00:10:36,949 --> 00:10:35,519  
susan continues to amaze us and we love

212  
00:10:39,509 --> 00:10:36,959  
her dearly

213  
00:10:41,350 --> 00:10:39,519

sister marge margie helms carrich also

214

00:10:42,949 --> 00:10:41,360

reflects on what a very talented

215

00:10:44,389 --> 00:10:42,959

musician you are

216

00:10:46,230 --> 00:10:44,399

she told me of the day when you were

217

00:10:49,269 --> 00:10:46,240

kids and your dad took the four girls to

218

00:10:51,670 --> 00:10:49,279

the movie young frankenstein

219

00:10:54,630 --> 00:10:51,680

when we came home susan's

220

00:10:56,710 --> 00:10:54,640

susan sat down at the piano and started

221

00:10:58,470 --> 00:10:56,720

to play the music from the movie

222

00:11:00,470 --> 00:10:58,480

by ear

223

00:11:03,269 --> 00:11:00,480

i thought to myself that's just not

224

00:11:07,190 --> 00:11:04,949

she was also the piano player in the

225

00:11:10,550 --> 00:11:07,200

debonairs her high school musical

226

00:11:13,509 --> 00:11:10,560

ensemble and she loves the show glee

227

00:11:14,550 --> 00:11:13,519

also susan janet nancy and i are very

228

00:11:16,389 --> 00:11:14,560

close

229

00:11:18,630 --> 00:11:16,399

and in some combination have traveled

230

00:11:20,470 --> 00:11:18,640

quite a bit together over the years many

231

00:11:21,990 --> 00:11:20,480

trips to las vegas without the husbands

232

00:11:23,829 --> 00:11:22,000

and kids

233

00:11:26,949 --> 00:11:23,839

several trips meet trips to meet in

234

00:11:29,350 --> 00:11:26,959

paris lots of trips to new york city but

235

00:11:31,750 --> 00:11:29,360

the first trips were with my parents

236

00:11:33,509 --> 00:11:31,760

traveling across the united states as

237

00:11:36,470 --> 00:11:33,519

dad went to helicopter training before

238

00:11:38,949 --> 00:11:36,480

his time in vietnam uh dory you'll need

239

00:11:41,190 --> 00:11:38,959

to tell margie that he was actually

240

00:11:43,750 --> 00:11:41,200

going to b-52 training just a little

241

00:11:46,150 --> 00:11:43,760

difference

242

00:11:47,829 --> 00:11:46,160

margie continues we took our big green

243

00:11:49,750 --> 00:11:47,839

station wagon and drove from

244

00:11:51,430 --> 00:11:49,760

massachusetts to california stayed four

245

00:11:53,190 --> 00:11:51,440

months in return

246

00:11:54,310 --> 00:11:53,200

we have many family memories along the

247

00:11:56,150 --> 00:11:54,320

way

248

00:11:58,629 --> 00:11:56,160

sister nancy stutzman tells of the time

249

00:12:00,230 --> 00:11:58,639

susan was living on the iss when dennis

250

00:12:02,389 --> 00:12:00,240

tito the first space tourist that you've

251  
00:12:04,389 --> 00:12:02,399  
already heard about was preparing to go

252  
00:12:06,389 --> 00:12:04,399  
to space there's quite a bit of

253  
00:12:08,150 --> 00:12:06,399  
political commentary about it down here

254  
00:12:11,030 --> 00:12:08,160  
on earth as to whether it was a good

255  
00:12:13,990 --> 00:12:11,040  
idea should the russians be allowed to

256  
00:12:15,269 --> 00:12:14,000  
sell seats on the sius it was all over

257  
00:12:17,590 --> 00:12:15,279  
the news

258  
00:12:19,190 --> 00:12:17,600  
nancy says susan was on station and so

259  
00:12:21,030 --> 00:12:19,200  
she didn't have access to the plethora

260  
00:12:22,949 --> 00:12:21,040  
of news commentary

261  
00:12:25,190 --> 00:12:22,959  
so she asked her how she felt about

262  
00:12:27,030 --> 00:12:25,200  
dennis tito coming to space

263  
00:12:28,870 --> 00:12:27,040

nancy says she'll never forget susan

264

00:12:31,110 --> 00:12:28,880

said while i'm living on the space

265

00:12:37,110 --> 00:12:31,120

station if anybody knocks at the door

266

00:12:42,069 --> 00:12:40,230

sister janet helms hansen reflects

267

00:12:44,389 --> 00:12:42,079

and this is a quote i just want to

268

00:12:45,430 --> 00:12:44,399

emphasize how much as a family we enjoy

269

00:12:46,550 --> 00:12:45,440

each other

270

00:12:48,870 --> 00:12:46,560

my parents

271

00:12:50,790 --> 00:12:48,880

instilled in us at a very young age how

272

00:12:52,470 --> 00:12:50,800

important family is

273

00:12:54,069 --> 00:12:52,480

we have all made an effort throughout

274

00:12:57,190 --> 00:12:54,079

the years to be at susan's many

275

00:12:59,190 --> 00:12:57,200

accomplishments however on the flip side

276

00:13:01,030 --> 00:12:59,200

susan has also made efforts to beat our

277

00:13:03,190 --> 00:13:01,040

accomplishments as well

278

00:13:04,230 --> 00:13:03,200

she's a wonderful sister and a wonderful

279

00:13:05,910 --> 00:13:04,240

friend

280

00:13:07,990 --> 00:13:05,920

there's a saying that you can choose

281

00:13:08,949 --> 00:13:08,000

your friends but you can't choose your

282

00:13:10,550 --> 00:13:08,959

family

283

00:13:13,190 --> 00:13:10,560

i think all of us would choose each

284

00:13:14,629 --> 00:13:13,200

other as friends and family

285

00:13:17,990 --> 00:13:14,639

from talking with your family members

286

00:13:20,150 --> 00:13:18,000

susan one thing is very very clear

287

00:13:22,870 --> 00:13:20,160

they all brag how amazing a person you

288

00:13:25,829 --> 00:13:22,880

are most of all how amazing you make

289

00:13:27,910 --> 00:13:25,839

them all feel they are to you

290

00:13:29,829 --> 00:13:27,920

i'll just share one more a few more

291

00:13:32,310 --> 00:13:29,839

thoughts before i sit down from one of

292

00:13:35,350 --> 00:13:32,320

your dear friends lisa reed who has to

293

00:13:36,949 --> 00:13:35,360

take credit for training both of us

294

00:13:38,790 --> 00:13:36,959

lisa is here to celebrate with you and

295

00:13:40,389 --> 00:13:38,800

your family this very special weekend

296

00:13:42,389 --> 00:13:40,399

according to lisa

297

00:13:45,269 --> 00:13:42,399

susan was a standout even as a new ass

298

00:13:46,470 --> 00:13:45,279

can astronaut candidate that's the term

299

00:13:51,189 --> 00:13:46,480

and

300

00:13:52,870 --> 00:13:51,199

into training having done all her prep

301

00:13:54,150 --> 00:13:52,880

work or homework

302

00:13:57,269 --> 00:13:54,160

and came to the and i'm going to give

303

00:13:59,670 --> 00:13:57,279

you some acronyms here okay the sst sms

304

00:14:02,310 --> 00:13:59,680

ses and mdf that's the

305

00:14:03,990 --> 00:14:02,320

single system trainer shuttle mission

306

00:14:08,870 --> 00:14:04,000

simulator

307

00:14:12,550 --> 00:14:08,880

manipulator development facility did i

308

00:14:16,470 --> 00:14:14,550

she always came into those sessions

309

00:14:17,829 --> 00:14:16,480

armed with knowledge and lots of pointed

310

00:14:19,829 --> 00:14:17,839

questions

311

00:14:22,389 --> 00:14:19,839

the instructors appreciated her

312

00:14:24,629 --> 00:14:22,399

preparation but many times

313

00:14:27,670 --> 00:14:24,639

we were the ones who left with crew

314

00:14:29,590 --> 00:14:27,680

questions to answer and get back to her

315

00:14:30,389 --> 00:14:29,600

so it's fair to say that while she was a

316

00:14:32,470 --> 00:14:30,399

student

317

00:14:34,949 --> 00:14:32,480

her instructors ended up learning more

318

00:14:37,350 --> 00:14:34,959

from all the questions they researched

319

00:14:39,910 --> 00:14:37,360

susan spent years off and on traveling

320

00:14:41,590 --> 00:14:39,920

to russia to train for iss mission and

321

00:14:43,910 --> 00:14:41,600

learning russian language

322

00:14:45,910 --> 00:14:43,920

many people never saw her dedication to

323

00:14:47,910 --> 00:14:45,920

preparation for this mission

324

00:14:49,269 --> 00:14:47,920

the expedition 2 training schedule was

325

00:14:51,030 --> 00:14:49,279

fully packed with little room for

326

00:14:53,030 --> 00:14:51,040

studying russian

327

00:14:54,870 --> 00:14:53,040

she would set the alarm and get up at 3

328

00:14:57,350 --> 00:14:54,880

30 to get her russian language study

329

00:14:58,790 --> 00:14:57,360

time in by the time she flew she was

330

00:15:01,030 --> 00:14:58,800

pretty fluent

331

00:15:04,470 --> 00:15:01,040

lisa also relates that susan loved her

332

00:15:05,509 --> 00:15:04,480

time on the iss but being a rabid x-file

333

00:15:07,590 --> 00:15:05,519

fan

334

00:15:09,350 --> 00:15:07,600

she fretted over how she was going to

335

00:15:12,389 --> 00:15:09,360

get to see the episodes she would be

336

00:15:14,150 --> 00:15:12,399

missing weekly while on board

337

00:15:15,269 --> 00:15:14,160

luckily

338

00:15:18,069 --> 00:15:15,279

for her

339

00:15:19,910 --> 00:15:18,079

her support team was able to record them

340

00:15:21,910 --> 00:15:19,920

and when either a shuttle or progress

341

00:15:24,710 --> 00:15:21,920

mission was there she relished the

342

00:15:26,790 --> 00:15:24,720

chance to watch all the episodes at once

343

00:15:30,069 --> 00:15:26,800

and then trade emails with her x-file

344

00:15:33,829 --> 00:15:30,079

fans friends watching on earth

345

00:15:35,749 --> 00:15:33,839

this past june january 2011 is as as

346

00:15:37,670 --> 00:15:35,759

john has already said

347

00:15:38,629 --> 00:15:37,680

susan helms was promoted to lieutenant

348

00:15:40,870 --> 00:15:38,639

general

349

00:15:42,870 --> 00:15:40,880

and assumed duties as commander 14th air

350

00:15:44,629 --> 00:15:42,880

force air force base command and

351  
00:15:47,990 --> 00:15:44,639  
commander joint functional component

352  
00:15:50,470 --> 00:15:48,000  
command for space u.s strategic command

353  
00:15:52,310 --> 00:15:50,480  
with this milestone in her life

354  
00:15:53,670 --> 00:15:52,320  
this daughter of a career air force

355  
00:15:55,910 --> 00:15:53,680  
pilot

356  
00:15:57,189 --> 00:15:55,920  
lieutenant general helms became the

357  
00:15:59,189 --> 00:15:57,199  
first woman

358  
00:16:01,269 --> 00:15:59,199  
and astronaut to take command at

359  
00:16:12,870 --> 00:16:01,279  
vandenberg air force base

360  
00:16:17,189 --> 00:16:14,790  
ladies and gentlemen it's my honor and

361  
00:16:24,629 --> 00:16:17,199  
privilege to present my hero and my

362  
00:16:54,230 --> 00:16:26,870  
and now the presentation of the hall of

363  
00:17:04,150 --> 00:16:58,069

boy charlie you really got to be there

364

00:17:08,630 --> 00:17:06,309

i you know i can they you all don't know

365

00:17:10,630 --> 00:17:08,640

this but there's a television

366

00:17:11,990 --> 00:17:10,640

that's behind this table up front and we

367

00:17:13,510 --> 00:17:12,000

can see

368

00:17:16,230 --> 00:17:13,520

uh what you're seeing on the forward

369

00:17:18,870 --> 00:17:16,240

screens and i know my hair is all over

370

00:17:20,710 --> 00:17:18,880

the place

371

00:17:23,110 --> 00:17:20,720

but then i thought you know in space it

372

00:17:25,350 --> 00:17:23,120

was all over the place anyway so it's

373

00:17:27,590 --> 00:17:25,360

probably appropriate i just can't

374

00:17:29,430 --> 00:17:27,600

control it

375

00:17:31,029 --> 00:17:29,440

but in any case i'm going to take a page

376

00:17:33,350 --> 00:17:31,039

from bill's book

377

00:17:35,590 --> 00:17:33,360

bill said that it takes thousands to

378

00:17:36,710 --> 00:17:35,600

build a space shuttle program and i'm

379

00:17:39,110 --> 00:17:36,720

going to tell you that it takes

380

00:17:42,789 --> 00:17:39,120

thousands to build an astronaut

381

00:17:44,950 --> 00:17:42,799

and so all i want to do here

382

00:17:48,390 --> 00:17:44,960

because there's not much more to say is

383

00:17:50,310 --> 00:17:48,400

to just thank the people that basically

384

00:17:52,070 --> 00:17:50,320

got me here

385

00:17:53,669 --> 00:17:52,080

in this point of recognition which by

386

00:17:55,669 --> 00:17:53,679

the way i'm so very thankful to the

387

00:17:58,150 --> 00:17:55,679

foundation and the committee for

388

00:18:00,710 --> 00:17:58,160

um picking me for this it truly is a

389

00:18:03,190 --> 00:18:00,720

humbling humbling honor and i admire all

390

00:18:05,430 --> 00:18:03,200

of you so very much

391

00:18:07,190 --> 00:18:05,440

it is quite surreal to stand up here

392

00:18:09,270 --> 00:18:07,200

among these giants

393

00:18:11,110 --> 00:18:09,280

on the stage and the others who are part

394

00:18:13,669 --> 00:18:11,120

of them that aren't here today

395

00:18:16,070 --> 00:18:13,679

and uh to be welcomed into this it is uh

396

00:18:17,830 --> 00:18:16,080

kind of a speechless moment really um

397

00:18:19,909 --> 00:18:17,840

and i want to thank all of you it's upon

398

00:18:21,430 --> 00:18:19,919

your shoulders of course that we are all

399

00:18:23,590 --> 00:18:21,440

standing in our in this younger

400

00:18:25,510 --> 00:18:23,600

generation i'm a part of but uh we would

401

00:18:26,950 --> 00:18:25,520

not be where we are today in space

402

00:18:29,110 --> 00:18:26,960

without all of you doing what you have

403

00:18:38,310 --> 00:18:29,120

done so please a round of applause for

404

00:18:42,789 --> 00:18:41,029

and and that was my first thank you i i

405

00:18:44,789 --> 00:18:42,799

will give you my next one i will name a

406

00:18:47,270 --> 00:18:44,799

couple of names

407

00:18:49,750 --> 00:18:47,280

i when i was a kid i love math and

408

00:18:51,669 --> 00:18:49,760

science and i love the air force

409

00:18:54,230 --> 00:18:51,679

and um of course

410

00:18:57,350 --> 00:18:54,240

you're all probably wondering

411

00:18:59,350 --> 00:18:57,360

joining the air force probably wasn't uh

412

00:19:00,950 --> 00:18:59,360

it was a no-brainer but the question was

413

00:19:02,789 --> 00:19:00,960

what about the astronaut part and so i

414

00:19:05,430 --> 00:19:02,799

would like to thank dick covey

415

00:19:07,830 --> 00:19:05,440

who isn't here today but uh when you

416

00:19:08,789 --> 00:19:07,840

think of who it was that probably got me

417

00:19:10,390 --> 00:19:08,799

really

418

00:19:12,070 --> 00:19:10,400

sparked to go ahead and put my

419

00:19:14,150 --> 00:19:12,080

application in for the program it was

420

00:19:16,549 --> 00:19:14,160

him he he actually came up to me and

421

00:19:19,430 --> 00:19:16,559

said why don't you apply to the program

422

00:19:21,590 --> 00:19:19,440

um and that until that moment until he

423

00:19:24,549 --> 00:19:21,600

said that i didn't ever think i would be

424

00:19:26,390 --> 00:19:24,559

competitive for the program and so

425

00:19:28,310 --> 00:19:26,400

because of him i really did get

426

00:19:30,870 --> 00:19:28,320

incentivized to go ahead and submit my

427

00:19:34,470 --> 00:19:30,880

application and a little known to me he

428

00:19:39,029 --> 00:19:36,630

when i when i showed up a few months

429

00:19:41,190 --> 00:19:39,039

later um he was one of 12. he didn't

430

00:19:42,789 --> 00:19:41,200

have the only vote but uh charlie you

431

00:19:45,510 --> 00:19:42,799

were on that selection board too if i

432

00:19:47,990 --> 00:19:45,520

recall um it was a it was a fun

433

00:19:49,590 --> 00:19:48,000

experience but but really

434

00:19:52,470 --> 00:19:49,600

uh dick was the one that sort of got

435

00:19:54,870 --> 00:19:52,480

this ball rolling and when we showed up

436

00:19:56,710 --> 00:19:54,880

the senior astronauts by that time they

437

00:19:57,909 --> 00:19:56,720

were there were a few folks left from

438

00:20:00,230 --> 00:19:57,919

the apollo program but they were

439

00:20:02,630 --> 00:20:00,240

primarily the shuttle astronauts at the

440

00:20:04,470 --> 00:20:02,640

time i got there in 1990 and

441

00:20:07,350 --> 00:20:04,480

and i have to thank them they set

442

00:20:10,070 --> 00:20:07,360

basically a standard of excellence in

443

00:20:13,110 --> 00:20:10,080

all that we do and uh nowhere was that

444

00:20:15,110 --> 00:20:13,120

more evident in how they tried to mentor

445

00:20:17,750 --> 00:20:15,120

us younger astronauts as we got ready

446

00:20:20,310 --> 00:20:17,760

for the shuttle flights then um than to

447

00:20:22,390 --> 00:20:20,320

think back on my rookie flight with my

448

00:20:24,870 --> 00:20:22,400

crew members who are all not rookies one

449

00:20:26,549 --> 00:20:24,880

of whom is here today don mcmonagle and

450

00:20:28,870 --> 00:20:26,559

if any of you know don mcmonagle you'll

451

00:20:31,350 --> 00:20:28,880

know that he is a man of perfection

452

00:20:33,190 --> 00:20:31,360

and knows uh what the standard really is

453

00:20:35,350 --> 00:20:33,200

in order to do this kind of business and

454

00:20:37,830 --> 00:20:35,360

and so all of the astronauts who are in

455

00:20:39,909 --> 00:20:37,840

the office mentoring us new folks uh and

456

00:20:41,909 --> 00:20:39,919

don you and the rest of the folks on 54

457

00:20:43,750 --> 00:20:41,919

that mentored me on that's what really

458

00:20:46,549 --> 00:20:43,760

drove me to come into the training team

459

00:20:48,950 --> 00:20:46,559

and ask all those hard questions was the

460

00:20:50,390 --> 00:20:48,960

astronauts behind me on my crew saying

461

00:20:52,070 --> 00:20:50,400

this is the level you have to know

462

00:20:53,350 --> 00:20:52,080

things and now let's see if you can

463

00:20:54,310 --> 00:20:53,360

figure out if the training team knows

464

00:20:57,669 --> 00:20:54,320

them too

465

00:20:59,909 --> 00:20:57,679

so um it was a it was a great

466

00:21:01,750 --> 00:20:59,919

a great dynamic to be a part of uh the

467

00:21:03,350 --> 00:21:01,760

training teams i'll mention them that

468

00:21:04,950 --> 00:21:03,360

they're part of the thousands it takes

469

00:21:06,470 --> 00:21:04,960

to build an astronaut

470

00:21:07,909 --> 00:21:06,480

you meant you already heard that lisa

471

00:21:09,190 --> 00:21:07,919

reed is here today there are other folks

472

00:21:11,510 --> 00:21:09,200

i'm sure in the audience that are here

473

00:21:14,470 --> 00:21:11,520

today the training teams uh very

474

00:21:16,630 --> 00:21:14,480

thankless job they're dealing with uh

475

00:21:18,230 --> 00:21:16,640

the astronaut pre-madonnas that we are

476

00:21:19,750 --> 00:21:18,240

everybody thinks it's all about us it's

477

00:21:22,470 --> 00:21:19,760

not it's about the program and it's

478

00:21:24,149 --> 00:21:22,480

about the great adventure but the

479

00:21:26,070 --> 00:21:24,159

the reason that we look so good at what

480

00:21:29,350 --> 00:21:26,080

we do is because we were trained that

481

00:21:31,430 --> 00:21:29,360

way and so the folks who do all of the

482

00:21:33,110 --> 00:21:31,440

payload integration all of the work with

483

00:21:34,630 --> 00:21:33,120

this to interface to the space shuttle

484

00:21:37,029 --> 00:21:34,640

all of the training for us they're the

485

00:21:39,990 --> 00:21:37,039

ones that that do build us into what we

486

00:21:41,430 --> 00:21:40,000

are and um make us look good and so i

487

00:21:43,430 --> 00:21:41,440

want to thank all of the folks who are a

488

00:21:45,270 --> 00:21:43,440

part of that

489

00:21:48,070 --> 00:21:45,280

uh i do have to throw in a thank you to

490

00:21:50,630 --> 00:21:48,080

hoot gibson he's the one that um really

491

00:21:53,270 --> 00:21:50,640

was the impetus of me joining max q

492

00:21:54,549 --> 00:21:53,280

and um

493

00:21:55,430 --> 00:21:54,559

and so

494

00:21:57,350 --> 00:21:55,440

who

495

00:21:59,270 --> 00:21:57,360

now i know why he thought it would raise

496

00:22:02,549 --> 00:21:59,280

the level of the band and that was what

497

00:22:04,230 --> 00:22:02,559

mattered but he um he was

498

00:22:05,750 --> 00:22:04,240

he was definitely with the other max

499

00:22:07,990 --> 00:22:05,760

cube band members and through including

500

00:22:09,590 --> 00:22:08,000

carl waltz my dear friend

501  
00:22:11,830 --> 00:22:09,600  
basically they

502  
00:22:13,909 --> 00:22:11,840  
they showed what it meant to not only

503  
00:22:16,470 --> 00:22:13,919  
work hard but to play hard and so i

504  
00:22:18,230 --> 00:22:16,480  
think max q was one of those things in

505  
00:22:19,669 --> 00:22:18,240  
the astronaut band where that was our

506  
00:22:22,149 --> 00:22:19,679  
way of

507  
00:22:23,830 --> 00:22:22,159  
after working so very hard we just got

508  
00:22:25,669 --> 00:22:23,840  
together and we played music together

509  
00:22:27,830 --> 00:22:25,679  
and that was playing hard too

510  
00:22:29,990 --> 00:22:27,840  
and the the byproduct that we were

511  
00:22:31,190 --> 00:22:30,000  
actually able to book a few gigs

512  
00:22:33,830 --> 00:22:31,200  
um

513  
00:22:35,029 --> 00:22:33,840

was was a neat byproduct but when i look

514

00:22:36,630 --> 00:22:35,039

back on it

515

00:22:38,710 --> 00:22:36,640

i think that where when you're an

516

00:22:39,750 --> 00:22:38,720

all-astronaut band

517

00:22:44,630 --> 00:22:39,760

everybody's everybody's gonna tell you

518

00:22:48,070 --> 00:22:45,830

so i

519

00:22:50,230 --> 00:22:48,080

i always wondered about that after but

520

00:22:52,870 --> 00:22:50,240

uh it was a great it was a great thing

521

00:22:55,110 --> 00:22:52,880

to be a part of and um and of course who

522

00:22:57,350 --> 00:22:55,120

had handed that as well as the others

523

00:22:59,190 --> 00:22:57,360

and and then i i do have to mention bob

524

00:23:01,590 --> 00:22:59,200

cabana because after flying several

525

00:23:03,510 --> 00:23:01,600

flights you know the office does the

526

00:23:06,390 --> 00:23:03,520

flight assignments and then this

527

00:23:09,750 --> 00:23:06,400

this moment came where i was no longer a

528

00:23:12,470 --> 00:23:09,760

part of a mature program at that point

529

00:23:14,549 --> 00:23:12,480

in the 90s called the space shuttle but

530

00:23:16,470 --> 00:23:14,559

me and a few others were basically

531

00:23:18,470 --> 00:23:16,480

identified by bob cabana who was chief

532

00:23:20,710 --> 00:23:18,480

of the office of that time to go

533

00:23:23,270 --> 00:23:20,720

do what astronauts need to do at times

534

00:23:24,310 --> 00:23:23,280

which is to go and start up a new space

535

00:23:26,549 --> 00:23:24,320

program

536

00:23:28,310 --> 00:23:26,559

a lot of the folks you see here

537

00:23:31,190 --> 00:23:28,320

they were part of the early days of the

538

00:23:32,630 --> 00:23:31,200

shuttle program and the moon program

539

00:23:34,950 --> 00:23:32,640

and uh in

540

00:23:36,950 --> 00:23:34,960

in scott's case even earlier

541

00:23:38,630 --> 00:23:36,960

and and me and a few others were

542

00:23:41,110 --> 00:23:38,640

selected to be a part of the space

543

00:23:43,909 --> 00:23:41,120

station program and uh bob made that

544

00:23:45,830 --> 00:23:43,919

choice and at the time we didn't know it

545

00:23:47,750 --> 00:23:45,840

but i've told him this since it was one

546

00:23:49,350 --> 00:23:47,760

of the most amazing things i've ever had

547

00:23:52,390 --> 00:23:49,360

the chance to do which was to be a part

548

00:23:54,310 --> 00:23:52,400

of a space outpost in space

549

00:23:55,909 --> 00:23:54,320

that truly was a human adventure that

550

00:23:58,230 --> 00:23:55,919

has no equal

551  
00:23:59,029 --> 00:23:58,240  
and i and i want to thank bob for making

552  
00:24:09,110 --> 00:23:59,039  
that

553  
00:24:10,070 --> 00:24:09,120  
the right way and i think we succeeded

554  
00:24:13,430 --> 00:24:10,080  
but

555  
00:24:15,909 --> 00:24:13,440  
and that's those folks that i

556  
00:24:17,990 --> 00:24:15,919  
um basically flew with all of the crew

557  
00:24:20,230 --> 00:24:18,000  
members that i flew with i drew more

558  
00:24:22,549 --> 00:24:20,240  
from them than they ever drew from me

559  
00:24:24,470 --> 00:24:22,559  
and uh and and frankly i think the

560  
00:24:26,789 --> 00:24:24,480  
reason i'm standing here before you

561  
00:24:27,669 --> 00:24:26,799  
right now is because of all the

562  
00:24:34,710 --> 00:24:27,679  
the

563  
00:24:35,430 --> 00:24:34,720

teams that basically made us all become

564

00:24:39,590 --> 00:24:35,440

as

565

00:24:40,870 --> 00:24:39,600

and then there's of course one obvious

566

00:24:43,029 --> 00:24:40,880

thank you i haven't mentioned yet and

567

00:24:45,110 --> 00:24:43,039

that's my family

568

00:24:48,230 --> 00:24:45,120

i'm debating whether to thank now thank

569

00:24:50,630 --> 00:24:48,240

them now after what charlie said but

570

00:24:52,390 --> 00:24:50,640

but the bottom line is every everything

571

00:24:53,590 --> 00:24:52,400

that they've said

572

00:24:55,909 --> 00:24:53,600

has been

573

00:24:57,669 --> 00:24:55,919

um bringing me to tears just thinking

574

00:25:00,070 --> 00:24:57,679

about it but it is true what he said

575

00:25:02,310 --> 00:25:00,080

certainly which is that my family means

576

00:25:04,950 --> 00:25:02,320

everything to me my mom my dad my three

577

00:25:06,549 --> 00:25:04,960

sisters and all of my extended family

578

00:25:09,350 --> 00:25:06,559

and um

579

00:25:12,149 --> 00:25:09,360

and that when i was on space station

580

00:25:13,510 --> 00:25:12,159

those many months and i remember

581

00:25:15,590 --> 00:25:13,520

thinking i've got to be in one of the

582

00:25:16,470 --> 00:25:15,600

most amazing places a human being can

583

00:25:18,630 --> 00:25:16,480

ever be

584

00:25:20,789 --> 00:25:18,640

in this really grand adventure

585

00:25:22,230 --> 00:25:20,799

looking at earth which is so very very

586

00:25:23,750 --> 00:25:22,240

beautiful

587

00:25:26,230 --> 00:25:23,760

from afar

588

00:25:28,630 --> 00:25:26,240

it really i it hit me at that point that

589

00:25:30,710 --> 00:25:28,640

if you don't have family

590

00:25:33,029 --> 00:25:30,720

and keep tied to family it really

591

00:25:34,710 --> 00:25:33,039

doesn't mean all that much and so

592

00:25:37,029 --> 00:25:34,720

i want to thank my family always for

593

00:25:39,590 --> 00:25:37,039

being there and supporting me because

594

00:25:42,789 --> 00:25:39,600

truly uh i'm who i am because of who you

595

00:25:45,110 --> 00:25:42,799

are so thank you very much and again

596

00:25:47,269 --> 00:25:45,120

thanks very much to the committee and

597

00:25:51,190 --> 00:25:47,279

the foundation for honoring me uh it

598

00:25:53,269 --> 00:25:51,200

truly is a humbling moment for me and um

599

00:25:55,430 --> 00:25:53,279

and i nothing in the bottom of my heart

600

00:25:57,110 --> 00:25:55,440

nothing will will surely be able to be

601

00:26:03,430 --> 00:25:57,120

said that that tells you how much this

602

00:26:07,909 --> 00:26:05,830

congratulations susan helms and welcome