



1
00:00:10,960 --> 00:00:12,130
I'm Teresa Vanhooser.

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00:00:12,130 --> 00:00:16,950
I'm the Deputy Director here at the Marshall
Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

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00:00:16,950 --> 00:00:21,070
I had an uncle who was an engineer for TVA,
so when I was getting close to graduating

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00:00:21,070 --> 00:00:25,200
from high school, and was trying to think
about what it was that I wanted to do, he

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00:00:25,200 --> 00:00:27,830
suggested engineering.

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00:00:27,830 --> 00:00:33,760
It sounded like a good way to take my love
for math and take it to the next level.

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00:00:33,760 --> 00:00:37,550
That's why I made a decision to go to Tennessee
Tech because they had a great engineering

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00:00:37,550 --> 00:00:38,550
department.

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00:00:38,550 --> 00:00:45,250
I really thought I was going to stay in Tennessee,
maybe go back towards home when I graduated.

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00:00:45,250 --> 00:00:53,250
But, my now husband - then boyfriend - co-oped
with NASA.

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00:00:53,250 --> 00:00:58,410
When he said they were coming to do interviews,

I thought, it sounded like, well that would

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00:00:58,410 --> 00:01:00,910

be a really cool job.

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00:01:00,910 --> 00:01:04,220

After they came to interview, shortly after that I got an offer.

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00:01:04,220 --> 00:01:06,640

They said we'd love for you to come to work for NASA.

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00:01:06,640 --> 00:01:09,200

It didn't take me long to say yes.

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00:01:09,200 --> 00:01:16,900

Of course, at that time, there wasn't a lot of women at NASA and particularly in the organization

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00:01:16,900 --> 00:01:19,350

and the branch that I was in.

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00:01:19,350 --> 00:01:24,380

I was the only female with the exception of the secretary that was there.

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00:01:24,380 --> 00:01:30,190

I never ever felt like that I didn't belong or they didn't want me there.

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00:01:30,190 --> 00:01:31,840

It was always an encouraging...

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00:01:31,840 --> 00:01:38,320

they always found ways to include me and to make sure that they were teaching me along

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00:01:38,320 --> 00:01:40,860

the way and bringing me up to speed.

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00:01:40,860 --> 00:01:48,689
It was always, from day one, a great opportunity to get to work with a lot of great engineers.

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00:01:48,689 --> 00:01:54,359
Being willing to take a risk and being willing to take on a new challenge is the first step

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00:01:54,359 --> 00:01:56,189
in moving up.

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00:01:56,189 --> 00:01:57,649
It's not always going to be easy.

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00:01:57,649 --> 00:02:02,600
There's always going to be challenges throughout any job that you take on and hopefully I'll

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00:02:02,600 --> 00:02:09,300
be able to be one of those people who younger women can look at and say 'If she can do it,

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00:02:09,300 --> 00:02:10,300
I can do it.'

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00:02:10,300 --> 00:02:14,280
That's one of my passions I have: around mentoring and developing people.

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00:02:14,280 --> 00:02:22,920
Being a supervisor allowed me to be able to do that and to be able to see the fruitions