



MIKE HOPKINS

NASA ASTRONAUT

1
00:00:04,004 --> 00:00:09,008
Kazakhstan 2013

2
00:00:13,920 --> 00:00:18,160
Sitting on the launch pad is definitely a\h
moment that you're always thinking about, right.\h

3
00:00:18,160 --> 00:00:21,440
That's one of the more critical\h
phases of the flight as you can imagine.

4
00:00:24,160 --> 00:00:31,280
You're very focused in, right. It can be a very\h
emotional time. You're kind of pinching yourself because\h\h

5
00:00:31,280 --> 00:00:36,720
it's hard to believe that you're finally\h
there. Born in Lebanon, Missouri, he is an Air\h\h

6
00:00:36,720 --> 00:00:43,040
Force colonel and a flight test engineer.\h
He was selected as an astronaut in 2009.\h\h

7
00:00:43,040 --> 00:00:57,840
He spent 166 days on the International Space\h
Station. Introducing NASA astronaut Mike Hopkins.

8
00:01:00,320 --> 00:01:05,120
You know it's funny I mean a lot of times people\h
think of the dream of being an astronaut as\h\h

9
00:01:05,120 --> 00:01:11,440
something that a a kid would have and I remember\h
when my wife and I first started dating at the\h\h

10
00:01:11,440 --> 00:01:17,520
University of Illinois and I told her that I
wanted to be an astronaut she laughed at me and\h\h

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00:01:17,520 --> 00:01:23,760

kind of said are you serious. But at the same\h
time, she stuck with me throughout the years\h\h

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00:01:23,760 --> 00:01:29,746

and to have that dream come true is\h
pretty amazing.

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00:01:29,746 --> 00:01:37,712

Mike Hopkins Crew-1 Commander

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00:01:39,713 --> 00:01:41,680

My role on the Crew Dragon\h\h

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00:01:41,680 --> 00:01:47,440

itself as part of Crew-1 is the commander of the\h
vehicle. We'll be launching to the International\h\h

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00:01:47,440 --> 00:01:53,840

Space Station and we're going to be doing a long-duration mission. A standard long-duration mission.

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00:01:55,200 --> 00:01:59,200

One of the nice things about being on board the\h
International Space Station is you have a lot of\h\h

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00:01:59,200 --> 00:02:03,600

connectivity believe it or not with your family\h
and so I was able to call just about every\h\h

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00:02:03,600 --> 00:02:11,120

day. My family means everything to me. It is\h
the most important part of my life. My wife Julie,\h\h

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00:02:11,120 --> 00:02:17,840

my son Ryan, my son Lucas, they are just such a\h
huge part of this whole endeavor. You know,\h\h

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00:02:17,840 --> 00:02:24,400

without family it just wouldn't be as meaningful.
The partnership that we have right now with SpaceX\h\h

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00:02:24,400 --> 00:02:30,160

it's pretty powerful. They bring a lot to the table,
NASA brings a lot to the table. We've got a ton of\h\h

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00:02:30,160 --> 00:02:34,800

experience in human space flight. When you're\h
out there on a day-to-day basis and\h\h

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00:02:34,800 --> 00:02:38,560

you're interacting with their engineers and\h
you're interacting with their trainers and\h\h

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00:02:38,560 --> 00:02:44,080

you're interacting with the people that are\h
actually building the rockets and building the\h\h

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00:02:44,080 --> 00:02:49,360

capsule itself, you really get to establish the\h
relationships, the personal relationships. It's\h\h

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00:02:49,360 --> 00:02:54,080

not just about the astronauts that are on board,\h
but it's about the entire team at NASA and SpaceX\h\h