

MOONIKIN CAMPOS



1
00:00:01,901 --> 00:00:05,038
Artemis I, the first test flight
for the Space

2
00:00:05,038 --> 00:00:07,941
Launch System megarocket
and the Orion spacecraft.

3
00:00:09,325 --> 00:00:12,746
On board is Commander
Moonikin Campos, a mannequin

4
00:00:12,746 --> 00:00:17,550
wearing a next generation spacesuit
called the Orion Crew Survival System.

5
00:00:18,868 --> 00:00:22,022
Moonikin Campos, is outfitted with sensors
that will provide data

6
00:00:22,022 --> 00:00:25,709
to help protect astronauts
on future Artemis missions.

7
00:00:26,810 --> 00:00:29,362
But why is this mannequin called
Moonikin Campos?

8
00:00:30,597 --> 00:00:33,833
The mannequin is named
after Mexican-American electrical engineer

9
00:00:34,134 --> 00:00:37,921
Arturo Campos, a key player in the Apollo
13 astronauts'

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00:00:37,921 --> 00:00:40,273
safe return to Earth.

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00:00:41,991 --> 00:00:44,177

It was April 13th, 1970,

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00:00:44,177 --> 00:00:46,529

when Campos got a phone call
in the middle of the night.

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00:00:47,447 --> 00:00:49,949

Okay, Houston, we've had a problem here.

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00:00:49,949 --> 00:00:50,750

It was night.

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00:00:50,750 --> 00:00:53,186

We got a phone call, or dad
got a phone call.

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00:00:53,420 --> 00:00:56,072

We heard our parents talking,
so we went downstairs.

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00:00:56,489 --> 00:01:01,411

And we asked our mom what was happening.

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00:01:01,644 --> 00:01:05,698

And she said that NASA called

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00:01:05,698 --> 00:01:11,004

and they were having
problems with the spacecraft.

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00:01:12,472 --> 00:01:13,473

That's the day that

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00:01:13,473 --> 00:01:16,342

my dad saved the astronauts.

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00:01:17,310 --> 00:01:21,347

When Campos arrived at the Space Center

in Houston, he learned that an oxygen tank

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00:01:21,347 --> 00:01:24,284

in the Apollo 13 service
module had ruptured.

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00:01:25,351 --> 00:01:28,788

The service module's normal
supply of electricity, light and water

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00:01:28,788 --> 00:01:34,194

had been lost, leaving astronauts
Jim Lovell, Jack Swigert and Fred Haise

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00:01:34,194 --> 00:01:38,815

stuck in a damaged spacecraft
about 200,000 miles away from Earth.

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00:01:39,833 --> 00:01:42,902

The main challenge was to find a way
to divert enough power

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00:01:42,902 --> 00:01:46,990

from the lunar module to the command
and service module's equipment system

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00:01:47,240 --> 00:01:49,726

so that the astronauts
could safely return to Earth.

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00:01:51,628 --> 00:01:55,315

Fortunately,
Campos had already written this procedure

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00:01:55,381 --> 00:01:58,318

since he dreamed about it a year earlier.

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00:02:01,738 --> 00:02:05,125

Campos, born in Laredo, Texas, in 1943,

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00:02:05,125 --> 00:02:07,794

showed an early interest in tinkering.

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00:02:07,794 --> 00:02:10,547

He was a mechanic by nature.

Yeah.

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00:02:11,297 --> 00:02:13,700

He worked on automobiles.

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00:02:14,334 --> 00:02:16,986

His father taught at

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00:02:17,220 --> 00:02:19,472

at the college auto mechanics.

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00:02:20,540 --> 00:02:23,910

And so he learned mechanicking
from his father.

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00:02:24,144 --> 00:02:25,528

He received

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00:02:26,129 --> 00:02:27,981

a grant to go

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00:02:27,981 --> 00:02:30,383

to the University of Texas in Austin.

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00:02:31,968 --> 00:02:34,971

Eventually Campos
graduated from the University of Texas

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00:02:34,971 --> 00:02:40,193

in electrical engineering and began
working for NASA in the early 1960s,

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00:02:40,193 --> 00:02:41,661

becoming one of the people in charge

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00:02:41,661 --> 00:02:43,763

of the electrical systems
in the Apollo program.

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00:02:44,747 --> 00:02:48,501

When the problem surfaced during
the Apollo 13 mission, Campos immediately

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00:02:48,501 --> 00:02:52,405

began reconstructing his plan to provide
sufficient power to the command module.

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00:02:53,122 --> 00:02:56,125

He came up with the solution
to give the batteries

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00:02:56,426 --> 00:03:00,213

enough power
to get those astronauts back here.

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00:03:00,680 --> 00:03:02,549

And so they

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00:03:02,732 --> 00:03:05,785

they used it
and thank God it got them back home.

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00:03:06,803 --> 00:03:09,539

Campos
and other members of the Apollo 13 mission

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00:03:09,772 --> 00:03:13,042

received
the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1970.

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00:03:13,560 --> 00:03:14,611

This means a whole lot.

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00:03:15,895 --> 00:03:16,729

The president of the

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00:03:16,729 --> 00:03:19,249

United States signed it.

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00:03:19,999 --> 00:03:23,186

Not a lot of civilians got it.

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00:03:23,186 --> 00:03:25,221

And my dad did.

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00:03:25,371 --> 00:03:29,275

And we couldn't be any prouder of dad.

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00:03:29,609 --> 00:03:32,879

We could not be any prouder of my father.

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00:03:33,529 --> 00:03:36,633

Campos passed away in 2001 at age 66,

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00:03:37,467 --> 00:03:41,004

and his name has left
an everlasting mark at NASA.

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00:03:41,821 --> 00:03:44,057

Very proud of my dad.

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00:03:44,057 --> 00:03:45,391

Absolutely.