

2018  
ROTARY NATIONAL AWARD FOR SPACE ACHIEVEMENT



ENGINEER

CIVIL SERVANT

NASA LEADER

VISIONARY

For his invaluable contributions to science and space exploration, Boeing is proud to congratulate Robert Lightfoot on receiving the 2018 National Space Trophy.



NATIONAL SPACE TROPHY RECIPIENT

# ROBERT LIGHTFOOT



Mr. Robert Lightfoot  
*Official NASA Photo*

The RNASA Foundation is pleased to recognize Mr. Robert Lightfoot, NASA's Acting Administrator, as the 2018 National Space Trophy Recipient.

### NOMINATED

Mr. Lightfoot was nominated for the award by Dr. Ellen Ochoa, Johnson Space Center Director, Mr. Robert Cabana, Kennedy Space Center Director and Mr. Todd May, Marshall Space Flight Center Director. The nominators selected Lightfoot for his, "continued extraordinary accomplishments towards achieving NASA's vision and mission, sustaining America's leadership in space, and pushing the frontiers of science, discovery, and exploration."

### EDUCATION AND EARLY CAREER

Mr. Lightfoot earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Alabama in 1986. His career with NASA began in 1989 at the Marshall Space Flight Center where he started as a test engineer and program manager. In 1999, he joined the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi where he was later named Propulsion Test Director in 2002.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lightfoot on their wedding day.



In 2003, following the Columbia accident, Lightfoot's proven track record led him to Washington, DC, where he was named Assistant Associate Administrator for the Space Shuttle Program. In this role, he led the return to flight efforts following President Bush's new Vision for Space Exploration announcement.

Mr. Lightfoot, SSME Conductor  
*NASA Photo*



Lightfoot transitioned back to Marshall in 2005 as Manager of the Space Shuttle Propulsion Office, where he oversaw the manufacture, readiness, and launch of the space shuttle propulsion elements for four space shuttle missions. In 2007, he transitioned, first as Deputy Director and in 2009, to MSFC Center Director, where he managed a \$2.6 billion budget, over 30,000 civil service and contractors and nearly 7 million square feet of facilities including the Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans. Michoud is one of the world's largest manufacturing sites and is the critical assembly center for NASA's exploration vehicles.

Mr. Lightfoot, Shuttle Propulsion Manager  
*NASA Photo*





NATIONAL SPACE TROPHY RECIPIENT

# ROBERT LIGHTFOOT



Mr. Lightfoot with long-time deputy, Lesa Roe, at the White House. NASA Photo

### NEW ADMINISTRATOR

In 2012, Mr. Lightfoot accepted the position as NASA's Associate Administrator, the agency's highest ranking civil servant position, responsible for the day to day operations of the Agency's aeronautics, science, technology, and human spaceflight efforts.

Mr. Lightfoot became NASA's Acting Administrator in January of 2017 and is now the longest serving Acting Administrator in NASA's history. He has gained significant White House engagement for the importance of a strong space program. This has included an ISS downlink in the Oval Office with the President, visits to three NASA Centers by the Vice President, including JSC for the new Astronaut Candidate Class announcement.

During his tenure, NASA has explored Pluto for the first time, studied Saturn and its moons, initiated new programs in low boom supersonic flight and electric-powered aircraft, continued the unprecedented research aboard the International Space Station, conducted tests of the Space Launch System solid rocket boosters, flown the first test flight of the Orion spacecraft and continued development of the next Mars rover. Looking toward the future, NASA is planning a mission to Jupiter's ocean moon Europa, and Orion missions to the Moon and Mars by the early 2020s. As an advocate for greater collaboration and fiscal responsibility, he takes great measures to advance NASA's missions and objectives while challenging outdated procedures in favor of developing new strategies.



Mr. Lightfoot with daughters, Kelsey and Haley.

Lightfoot has been honored with many awards including the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executive, the Presidential Rank Award for Distinguished Executive (twice), the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal, the Spaceflight Leadership Recognition Award, the 2017 Dr. Wernher von Braun Space Flight Trophy and NASA's astronaut corps Silver Snoopy Award.



Mr. Lightfoot with grandson, Wyatt.

Lightfoot is happily married to Caroline, his wife of 31 years and is the proud father of two grown daughters and grandfather to a new grandson. He enjoys spending his free time watching college football, especially Alabama, playing golf and spending time with his family.



Aerojet Rocketdyne Congratulates  
Robert Lightfoot  
2018 National Space Trophy Recipient.

We congratulate all Stellar Award nominees and recipients for their contributions to our nation's space program.

We are enabling a new reach into deep space and defending our Nation's freedom.





NATIONAL SPACE TROPHY PRESENTER

# DR. ELLEN OCHOA



Dr. Ellen Ochoa  
NASA Photo

Dr. Ellen Ochoa, Director of the Johnson Space Center and veteran NASA astronaut (STS-56, STS-66, STS-96, and STS-110), will present the prestigious 2018 Rotary National Award for Space Achievement to NASA Acting Administrator Robert Lightfoot.

Dr. Ochoa remarks, "As Acting Administrator, Mr. Lightfoot confidently led the agency through the transition period, communicating regularly and transparently with members of the administration, as well as with NASA employees. In describing the value of NASA to the nation, he highlighted the

ability of NASA to continue to demonstrate American leadership in a unique and highly visible arena, while continuing to push internally for excellence across NASA's aeronautics and space endeavors."

Dr. Ochoa earned a master's degree and doctorate in electrical engineering from Stanford, and a bachelor's degree in physics from San Diego State University. She began her career as a research engineer at Sandia National Laboratories and NASA Ames Research Center. She has three patents in the area of optical information processing and numerous publications in technical journals. Selected to join the Astronaut Corps in 1990, she subsequently served as a crew member on four space shuttle missions in a variety of roles including leading onboard science activities, operating the robotic arm, and serving as flight engineer during the launch, rendezvous and entry phases of the mission. She logged nearly 1,000 hours in space.

Prior to being named center director in 2013, Dr. Ochoa was deputy center director for five years; she previously led the Flight Crew Operations Directorate, managing the Astronaut Office and the Aircraft Operations Division. As the first Hispanic female astronaut, Dr. Ochoa has given hundreds of presentations focusing on the importance of a STEM education. She has six schools named after her, several books written about her, and has been profiled in textbooks and on websites geared toward encouraging females and minorities to pursue technical fields. She is the recipient of many awards including NASA's highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Presidential Distinguished Rank of the Senior Executive Service, three honorary doctorates and is in the Astronaut Hall of Fame. She is a fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the National Academy of Inventors.

Astronaut Ochoa gazes through the window of the Destiny Lab aboard the ISS, STS-110  
NASA Photo



# ENGINEER. LEADER. EXPLORER.

Looking to the heavens and exploring the frontiers of the unknown. It's an intangible human desire. Throughout Robert Lightfoot's accomplished career at NASA, he has launched humanity into the solar system and expanded our understanding of the cosmos. We congratulate him for his many achievements over his distinguished career and for earning RNASA's 2018 National Space Trophy, an honor richly deserved.

From the women and men of Lockheed Martin.

LOCKHEED MARTIN





SPACE COMMUNICATOR AWARD

# WILLIAM SHATNER



William Shatner  
Shatner Photo

The RNASA Foundation is pleased to present the 2018 Space Communicator Award to William Shatner.

Long known for his role as Captain James Kirk of *Star Trek's* USS Enterprise, Shatner has inspired generations of young explorers. His role as Captain Kirk spanned nearly three decades, first on the 1960's NBC television series and, later, in seven feature films between 1979-1994.

Bob Jacobs, NASA Deputy Associate Administrator for Communications, who nominated Shatner said, "Many past, present, and future NASA astronauts, engineers and scientists admit their inspiration for pursuing their particular careers was because of the adventures over the past five decades of Capt. James T. Kirk and the crew of the starship U.S.S. Enterprise."

Shatner has long been an advocate of international space exploration efforts. In recent years, he has supported numerous NASA outreach activities to educate the public and to inspire a new generation of explorers.

In 2011, Shatner donated his time in honor of Space Shuttle Discovery's final flight. He recreated the famous *Star Trek* introduction for the crew of STS-133 saying, "These have been the voyages of the space shuttle Discovery. Her 30-year mission: to seek out new science, to build new outposts, to bring nations together in the final frontier, to boldly go and do what no spacecraft has done before." He also narrated the space shuttle 30th anniversary documentary.

Shatner said of his award, "I am honored for RNASA to select me as the recipient of the 2018 Space Communicator Award. As a lifelong fan of space exploration, I'm pleased I've been able to contribute to the public's greater understanding and appreciation of space."

In 2012, Shatner narrated the Grand Entrance to Mars presentation which guided viewers through Curiosity's complex landing on the Martian surface. In order to make a successful soft landing, the Curiosity spacecraft had seven minutes to slow down from 13,000 mph as it rocketed through the atmosphere. It was appropriately dubbed the "seven minutes of terror".

He continued his support in the fall of 2017 by sending a message to the Voyager spacecraft on its 40th anniversary. It read "We offer friendship across the stars. You are not alone." Launched in 1977, the Voyager probe is beaming back data from the furthest reaches of our solar system. As of January 2018, Voyager was 13 billion miles from Earth.

Shatner was born in 1931 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. He graduated from McGill University in 1952 with a Bachelor of Commerce degree. His career began in 1954 when he performed at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario in productions such as Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex*, and *Henry V*. Shatner has three daughters and lives in Southern California with his wife, Elizabeth.



## Orbital ATK Congratulates Robert Lightfoot

2018 National Space Trophy Recipient



The Partner You Can Count On™

We also congratulate all Stellar Award nominees and winners for their dedication and excellence in the advancement of America's space goals.

[OrbitalATK.com](http://OrbitalATK.com)





## SPACE COMMUNICATOR AWARD PRESENTER **JEN-RAE WANG**



Jen-Rae Wang  
*NASA Photo*

The RNASA Foundation is pleased to welcome Jen-Rae Wang, NASA Associate Administrator for the Office of Communications, to present the 2018 Space Communicator Award to William Shatner.

Wang joined NASA in 2017 with more than a decade of experience at the highest levels of state and federal government in public, legislative, and media affairs both domestically and internationally, strategic communications, as well as small and large-scale organizational executive leadership. At NASA, Wang directs internal and external communications for the agency and serves as a Senior Advisor to NASA's Administrator and other executive leaders. She is responsible for managing an agency-wide staff of more than 100 that implements all aspects of NASA's external and internal communications.

Immediately prior to coming to NASA, Wang was the Deputy Chief of Staff to U.S. Rep. Don Bacon, where she led the Congressman's Omaha office as the District Director and was the Communications Director and key spokesperson.

Wang also served eight years as the Communications Director and spokesperson for Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman. At the end of his term, she was the longest serving Communications Director for a sitting U.S. Governor. She also was the Communications Director for the Lieutenant Governor and First Lady of Nebraska. In her many responsibilities, she led state communications in emergency situations, assisted in leading international trade missions, led strategic communications for nearly 40 state agencies, and worked directly with the Governor's Cabinet and the legislature. Wang was a liaison to the National Governor's Association and worked closely with the nation's 55 governors and staff when Gov. Heineman served as Vice Chair and Chair of the organization.

Prior to leading the Governor's Communications Office, Wang was a Senior Advisor and Communications Director to U.S. Congressman Lee Terry on The Hill for three years.

In addition to her public service career, Wang has a background in public relations and journalism, with experience in print, broadcast and social media. She has been an adjunct professor, teaching advanced public relations theories and strategies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's College of Journalism and Mass Communications, and recently received the Public Relations Student Society of America's first-ever Outstanding Mentor Award for her decade of mentoring the future leaders of journalists and strategic communications professionals.

Wang is a graduate of the University of Kansas' William Allen White School of Journalism, Lawrence, with a bachelor of science degree in strategic communications and advertising. She is currently working on her master's degree in management with a leadership emphasis through Doane University in Nebraska.

Wang describes herself as the proud wife of a U.S. Marine Corps officer. They have three children, Orion, Lyra and Caelum.



## IN MEMORY OF **JOHN YOUNG**



John Young  
*NASA Photo*

The RNASA Foundation would like to recognize John Young (1930-2018) for his contributions to the American aerospace program. John was the recipient of the 1997 RNASA Corona Award and the 2000 National Space Trophy.

Young received his Bachelor of Science degree from Georgia Tech in 1952. After graduation, he entered the US Navy where he earned his aviator wings in 1954. He logged more than 20,000 hours flying time in jets, helicopters, props and T-38's.

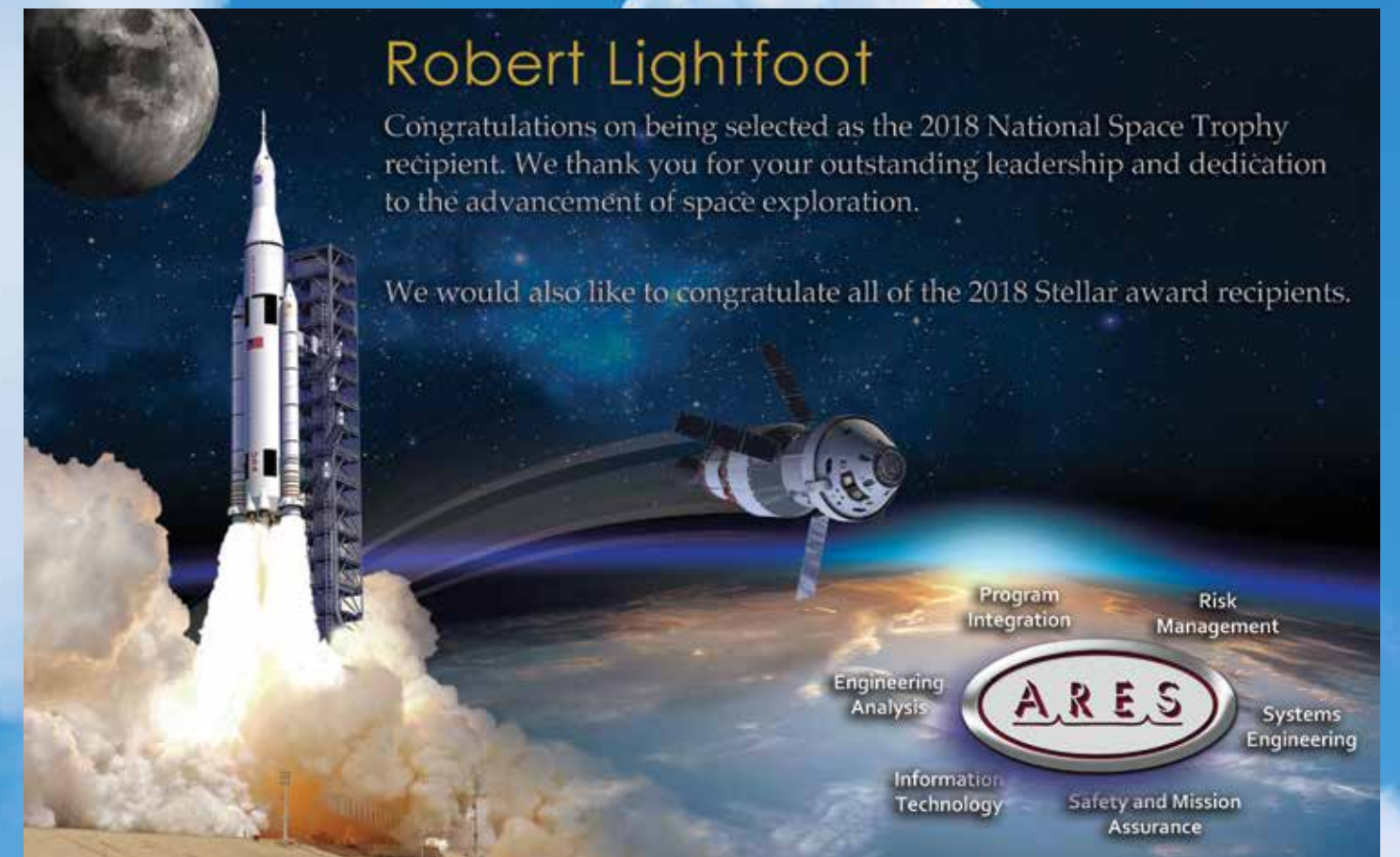
He joined NASA in 1962 and piloted the first manned space flight aboard Gemini 3 in 1965 alongside Gus Grissom. He went on to serve as Commander of Gemini 10, Command Module Pilot of Apollo 10 and Commander of Apollo 16 in 1972. In 1974, he was selected to be Chief of the Astronaut Office, a position he held for many years. He later commanded two missions aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia, including STS-1, the programs maiden flight and STS-9 which carried the first Spacelab module. Young also served as Special Assistant to the Director of JSC for nearly a decade. Young logged 835 hours in space during six missions and was the only astronaut to fly in the Gemini, Apollo, and Shuttle programs.

John served on the RNASA board of advisors for 17 years and cast his vote in the selection of more than a dozen NST recipients. He is survived by his wife, Susy, two children, two grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.

## Robert Lightfoot

Congratulations on being selected as the 2018 National Space Trophy recipient. We thank you for your outstanding leadership and dedication to the advancement of space exploration.

We would also like to congratulate all of the 2018 Stellar award recipients.





EMCEE

# JOHN ZARRELLA



John Zarrella  
Zarrella Photo

The RNASA Foundation is pleased to welcome former CNN correspondent John Zarrella as the emcee of the 2018 RNASA gala.

Born and raised in Miami Beach, Zarrella earned a bachelors degree in English from St. Thomas University. His career began in 1975 working as a television reporter in Miami, Baltimore and Atlanta.

Zarrella's career with CNN began in 1981 as an executive producer at the world headquarters in Atlanta. From there, he was named CNN Miami's correspondent when the bureau was opened in 1983. For over thirty years, Zarrella covered the U.S. space program, including 75 shuttle launches, John Glenn's return to space, the Mars Pathfinder mission, the Challenger and Columbia tragedies and Atlantis' final flight.

In 2009, Zarella wrote and hosted *Counting Down Cady*, a year-long series for CNN's *American Morning*. The show followed Astronaut Cady Coleman as she prepared for Expedition 26/27 to the ISS. He went on to write and host the one-hour documentary *Beyond Atlantis: The Next Frontier* chronicling the Space Shuttle Program and NASA's future.

Aside from his space beat, Zarrella has covered thousands of stories including every major hurricane to hit Florida, the 1985 hijacking of TWA flight 847 in Beirut, the Mexico City earthquake in 1985, the 1995 bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Air France's crash in Brazil, the Elian Gonzalez story in Miami and the Gulf Oil Spill in 2010 which went on to win the Peabody Award.

He opened JZ Media in 2014 which focuses on news consulting, media training for interviews, video production and voice over work. He has covered topics such as the Orion launch, coral reef resorations, the Ad Astra Rocket Company and even hunting for treasure from Spanish galleons.

Zarella's has been honored with many awards including two Emmy Awards for his coverage for Katrina, Oklahoma City, Pacific Sunami, and the Presidential election coverage. He has also been honored with the 2013 Media Award from the National Space Club Florida, the 2009 Media Award from the National Space Club in Huntsville and two National Hurricane Conference Media Awards.

He is married to Robin Zarrella with four children, and enjoys fishing, golf, and gardening. In 2016, John and his son, Michael, opened Zarrella's Italian and Wood Fired Pizza Restaurant on Astronaut Boulevard in Cape Canaveral, Florida.



OMEGA WATCH PRESENTER

# THOMAS STAFFORD



Tom Stafford  
RNASA Photo

Once again, OMEGA has generously donated a watch to the recipient of the National Space Trophy. The watch is presented by Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Stafford, USAF (Ret.), the recipient of the Trophy in 1993, and a member of

the RNASA Board of Advisors. From Weatherford, Oklahoma, Stafford graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1952 and became an Air Force fighter and test pilot. He was the pilot for Gemini 6 in 1965 and the commander for Gemini 9 the next year. Stafford commanded Apollo 10 in 1969 and Apollo-Soyuz in 1975. He left NASA to command the Air Force Flight Test Center, and in 1978 became Deputy Chief of Staff at Air Force Headquarters in D.C. He retired in 1979, and co-founded the consulting firm of Stafford, Burke, and

Hecker in Alexandria, Virginia. In 1990, Stafford chaired the team that prepared "America at the Threshold" to advise NASA on returning to the Moon and exploring Mars.

## LAUNCHING BRANDS TWENTY YEARS.

At Griffin Communications Group, we proudly lend our unique experience and talents to companies and organizations that are making a true difference in the world. Thanks for helping us reach this milestone. It's been quite a ride, and the fun is just beginning.



Griffin congratulates Robert Lightfoot for years of dedicated service to NASA and the aerospace industry.



STELLAR AWARDS PRESENTER

# SHANE KIMBROUGH



Shane Kimbrough  
NASA Photo

The RNASA Foundation is pleased to welcome Astronaut Shane Kimbrough as a stellar awards presenter.

Kimbrough earned his Bachelors Degree in Aerospace Engineering from the United States Military Academy, West Point in 1989. He was designated an Army aviator in 1990 and was deployed to Asia, where he served as an Apache helicopter pilot during Operation Desert Storm. He went on to command an Apache helicopter company at Fort Bragg in 1994 and earned a Masters in Operations Research from Georgia Tech in 1998. He returned to West Point after completing his masters degree as an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences. He retired from the US Army as a Colonel in 2014.

Kimbrough joined NASA in 2000 where he served as a Flight Simulation Engineer on the Shuttle Training Aircraft. He was selected for the Astronaut Training Program in 2004 and flew aboard STS-126 Endeavour in November 2008. During the 16 day mission, Kimbrough and the crew delivered critical components to the ISS including a new bathroom, kitchen, two bedrooms, an exercise machine and a water recycling system. He performed two space walks, the first of which on the 10th anniversary of the ISS, totaling just shy of 13 hours.

He went on to launch aboard the Soyuz in October 2016 as part of Expedition 49/50 to the ISS. One week after arriving, Kimbrough took over command of the station from Anatoli Ivanishin. During his 6-month stay, Kimbrough performed four spacewalks totaling 26 hours in which he made preparations to replace the ISS batteries and installed adapters to accommodate commercial crew vehicles. Kimbrough concluded his 173-day-mission on April 10, 2017.

Inside the Soyuz MS-02 for a pre-launch training, 2017  
NASA Photo



Kimbrough's honors include Distinguished Graduate from the U.S. Army flight school; two Meritorious Service Medals; Army Commendation Medal; Army Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Southwest Asia Service Medal; Kuwaiti Liberation Medal; Saudi Arabian Kuwaiti Liberation Medal; Valorous Unit Award and Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

Kimbrough is married and has three children. He enjoys baseball, golf and running.



STELLAR AWARDS PRESENTER

# PEGGY WHITSON



Peggy Whitson  
NASA Photo

The RNASA Foundation is pleased to welcome Astronaut Peggy Whitson as a stellar awards presenter.

Born and raised in Iowa, Whitson earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology/Chemistry from Iowa Wesleyan College in 1981 and a Doctorate in Biochemistry from Rice University in 1985. Following her work as a Robert A. Welch Postdoctoral Fellow, she served as a National Research Council Resident Research Associate at NASA JSC until she was recruited by KRUG International as a Supervisor for the Biochemistry Research Group in 1988. In 1991, she joined the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine and Department of Human Biological Chemistry and Genetics. She returned to Rice University in 1997 as an Adjunct Professor at the Maybee Laboratory for Biochemical and Genetic Engineering.

Her career with NASA began in 1989. She has served in dozens of capacities including Research Biochemist, Payload Element Developer, Project Scientist of the Shuttle-Mir Program, Deputy Division Chief of the Medical Sciences Division and Deputy Chief of the Astronaut Office. From 2009 until 2012 she served as the first woman, nonmilitary Chief of the Astronaut Corps.

Whitson was selected as an Astronaut Candidate in 1996 and flew aboard STS-111 in June 2002 as a member of Expedition 5. During her 6-month stay on the ISS, she performed two spacewalks, conducted 21 investigations and was named the first NASA Science Officer. Her next flight came in October 2008 as part of Expedition 16. As commander, she oversaw large expansions to the ISS including new living and working quarters, the Harmony connecting node, the European Space Agency's Columbus laboratory, Japan's Aerospace Exploration Agency's Kibo logistics pressurized module and the Canadian Space Agency's Dextre robot. She conducted five spacewalks during her 6-month stay. Expedition 50/51 was her most recent mission in November 2016. Once again, she contributed to hundreds of experiments and performed four spacewalks. All told, she has spent a whopping 665 days in space, conducted 10 spacewalks and holds the record for the most cumulative time spent in space by a U.S. astronaut.

Expedition 50 aboard the ISS, Nov 2016  
NASA Photo



Whitson is married to Dr. Clarence Sams and enjoys biking, basketball and water skiing.





## ROTARY NATIONAL AWARD FOR SPACE ACHIEVEMENT

# RNASA FOUNDATION



### All Rows L to R: SECOND ROW:

L. Jean Walker (Secretary), John Branch, Mary Alys Cherry, Tim Kropp, Rodolfo Gonzalez (Chairman), Jennifer Devolites, Bill Taylor (Vice Chairman), Shelley Bacchus, Bob Wren **FIRST ROW:** Frank Perez, Geoff Atwater (Treasurer), Lindsey Cousins, Duane Ross, Delia Stephens, Maria Montemayor, Ralph Kramer (Space Center Rotary President) **NOT PICTURED:** Floyd Bennett, Jeff Carr, Stephanie Castillo, Irene Chan, Alex D'Eath, Steven Fredrickson, Susan Gomez, Philip Harris, Marcus Havican, Mike Hernandez, Gary Johnson, Joseph Mayer, Veronica McGregor, Jayant Ramakrishnan, Branelle Rodriguez, Celina Rogers, Lori Wheaton

The Rotary National Award for Space Achievement (RNA-SA) Foundation was founded in 1985 to organize and coordinate an annual event to recognize outstanding achievements in space and create greater public awareness of the benefits of space exploration. Each year, the Foundation presents the National Space Trophy (NST) to an outstanding American (see previous winners on page 17) who has made major contributions to our nation's space program.

Nominations are solicited each fall from leaders in government, industry, and professional organizations. The winner is selected by a vote of the RNASA's Board of Advisors (page 35) that includes current and former NASA center directors, leaders of aerospace corporations, space journalists, and previous award recipients.

Since 1989, the RNASA Foundation has also recognized the heroes of the space program with Stellar Awards (pages 22-32) for individual and team achievements.

The RNASA Foundation is a nonprofit organization governed by a Board of Directors, a majority of whom must be members in good standing of the Space Center Rotary (SCR) club. One third of the directors are elected each June for

three-year terms except for the SCR president who serves for one year while president.

The RNASA Committee (pictured) serves the board and includes the directors, officers, corporate representatives, event coordinators, and dedicated Rotarians who help organize and produce a quality and memorable evening for our sponsors (page 19) and guests.

Excess funds remaining after event expenses are donated to space-related programs. Following the 2017 event, proceeds were donated to the NASA Aerospace Scholars Program which provides thousands of students the opportunity to experience the exciting work being done at Johnson Space Center.

The RNASA Foundation is grateful for the enthusiasm and support it receives from the aerospace industry, educational organizations, NASA, and the Department of Defense that allows the continued recognition of outstanding achievements in space exploration.



## ROTARY NATIONAL AWARD FOR SPACE ACHIEVEMENT

# PREVIOUS NST RECIPIENTS



1987 - Maxime Faget

1988 - Don Fuqua

1989 - Richard Truly

1990 - Lew Allen

1991 - Aaron Cohen

1992 - Norman R. Augustine

1993 - Thomas Stafford

1994 - Edward C. Aldridge

1995 - Daniel Goldin

1996 - Robert L. Crippen

1997 - George W.S. Abbey

1998 - George H.W. Bush

1999 - Christopher C. Kraft

2000 - John W. Young

2001 - Tommy Holloway

2002 - George E. Mueller

2003 - Roy S. Estess

2004 - Neil A. Armstrong

2005 - Glynn S. Lunney

2006 - Eileen Collins

2007 - Eugene F. Kranz

2008 - Eugene Cernan

2009 - Michael D. Griffin

2010 - Bill Gerstenmaier

2011 - Kevin P. Chilton

2012 - Michael L. Coats

2013 - Kay Bailey Hutchison

2014 - Charles F. Bolden

2015 - Robert D. Cabana

2016 - Charles Elachi

2017 - Dr. John Grunsfeld



## ROTARY NATIONAL AWARD FOR SPACE ACHIEVEMENT

# PROGRAM

Friday, April 27, 2018  
Houston Hyatt Regency Imperial Ballroom

### 6:00 RECEPTION

### 7:00 WELCOME

Rodolfo González, Chairman, RNASA Foundation

### PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

Clear Brook High School, Clear Creek ISD  
Cadets from 3rd Battalion JROTC

Melissa Hernandez, Toby McCreary, Victoria Sanchez, Jacob Mendoza  
Escorted by Brent Elrod, Major, US Army (Retired)

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

Thomas Glass, First year baritone from Houston Grand Opera

### INVOCATION

Rev. Michael Stone, Rector, St Thomas The Apostle Episcopal Church, Nassau Bay, Texas

### DINNER

### 8:15

### 2017 YEAR-IN-REVIEW FILM

Space City Films

### EMCEE

John Zarrella, Former CNN correspondent

### PRESENTATION OF SPACE COMMUNICATOR AWARD TO WILLIAM SHATNER VIA VIDEO

Jen-Rae Wang, NASA Associate Administrator, Office of Communications

### PRESENTATION OF STELLAR AWARDS

Shane Kimbrough and Peggy Whitson, NASA Astronauts

### PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL SPACE TROPHY TO MR. ROBERT LIGHTFOOT

Ellen Ochoa, Johnson Space Center Director

### PRESENTATION OF THE OMEGA WATCH

Thomas Stafford

### RECOGNITION OF SPONSORS AND CLOSING



## ROTARY NATIONAL AWARD FOR SPACE ACHIEVEMENT

# SPONSORS

### CORPORATE TABLE SPONSORS

a.i.solutions, Inc.  
Aerie Aerospace  
Aerojet Rocketdyne  
The Aerospace Corp  
ARES Corporation  
ASRC Federal  
Barrios Technology  
Bastion Technologies, Inc.  
Blue Origin  
The Boeing Company  
Booz Allen Hamilton  
CACI International  
Draper Laboratory  
Dynetics  
Engility  
ERC, Inc.  
GeoControl Systems, Inc.  
Honeywell  
Jacobs  
KBRwyle  
Leidos  
Lockheed Martin  
MEI Technologies, Inc.  
MORI Associates, Inc.  
MRI Technologies  
Oceaneering International, Inc.  
Orbital ATK  
Raytheon  
SAIC  
SGT, Inc.  
Sierra Nevada Corporation  
SpaceX  
UTC Aerospace Systems  
University of Houston-Clear Lake  
Vericon Technical Services

### CREDITS

Live Event and Multimedia Production by  
Space City Films  
Program book content by Lindsey Cousins  
Art & Design by Lindsey Cousins  
Cover art by Pat Rawlings  
Printing by Printing for Less

### OMEGA WATCH

OMEGA Watches

### ROBERT LIGHTFOOT'S PORTRAIT

Engility

### STELLAR AWARD TROPHIES

Orbital ATK

### STELLAR AWARD PENS

Fisher Space Pens

### STELLAR AWARD EVALUATION PANEL

Arnold D. Aldrich  
Kevin Chilton  
Michael Coats  
Eileen Collins  
Dr. Glynn S. Lunney

### SPECIAL THANKS

Jeffrey Carr  
Irene Chan  
Craig Insurance  
Mark E. Hollis, CPA  
Hyatt Regency Houston  
MRI Technologies  
NASA Johnson Space Center  
Space Center Rotary Club



## ROTARY NATIONAL AWARD FOR SPACE ACHIEVEMENT

# STELLAR AWARDS PROGRAM

Each fall, the RNASA Foundation solicits Stellar Award nominations of space industry workers and teams deserving of special recognition. All nominees are treated to an insiders' tour of Johnson Space Center (JSC) and an awards luncheon with a distinguished speaker. This year's speaker was Randy Bresnik. Nominees receive framed certificates of recognition and blue ribbons to wear at the evening banquet so that guests can identify them and offer their congratulations. The winners of the Stellar Awards are chosen by an esteemed panel of judges based on which accomplishments will have the most impact on future space activities and that meet the criteria of recognizing "heros of the space program." The winners are announced at the banquet where they receive a distinctive engraved marble trophy generously sponsored this year by Orbital ATK.

### STELLAR AWARDS EVALUATION PANEL

**DR. GLYNN LUNNEY** is a member of the RNASA Board of Advisors who is serving his sixteenth year on the Stellar Awards Evaluation Panel. He was the 2005 National Space Trophy winner. Lunney graduated from the University of Detroit in 1958 and moved to Houston in 1962. He was a flight director for Gemini and Apollo and head of the Flight Director's Office starting in 1968. He received an honorary doctorate from the University of Scranton in 1971. In 1972, Lunney became manager of the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project, and manager of the Apollo Spacecraft Office starting in 1973. Lunney served at NASA Headquarters, first as deputy associate administrator (AA) for Space Flight, and then as acting AA for Space Transportation Operations. He returned to Houston in 1981 to manage the Space Shuttle Program. In 1985, Lunney left NASA and became president of Rockwell's Satellite Systems Division in California. He then returned to Houston in 1989 to lead Rockwell's Space Operations Co. that became part of United Space Alliance (USA) in 1995. Lunney was VP and program manager of USA's Space Flight Operations Contract until his retirement in 1999.



Dr. Glynn Lunney  
RNASA Photo

**ARNOLD ALDRICH** is a member of the RNASA Board of Advisors who is serving his eleventh year on the Stellar Award Evaluation panel. Aldrich joined the Space Task Group at Langley Field in 1959 following graduation from Northeastern University. He served as Skylab deputy program manager; Apollo Spacecraft flight controller at the remote sites and mission control during Program Mercury, Gemini and Apollo; Skylab deputy program manager; Apollo Spacecraft Program Office deputy manager during the Apollo Soyuz Test Project; Orbiter Project manager during development of Space Shuttles Discovery and Atlantis; and Space Shuttle Program manager. Following the Challenger accident, Aldrich was appointed director of the National Space Transportation System (Space Shuttle Program) at NASA Headquarters where he led recovery and return-to-flight efforts. In 1994, Aldrich left NASA and joined Lockheed Missiles and Space Company in Sunnyvale, California. He was vice president, Commercial Space Business Development and then vice president, Strategic Technology Planning. With the merger of Lockheed and Martin Marietta, he became director of Program Operations at Lockheed Martin's headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland. He retired in 2007 and is now an aerospace consultant.



Arnold Aldrich  
RNASA Photo

**COLONEL EILEEN COLLINS, USAF (Ret.)** and former NASA astronaut, STS-63, STS-84, STS-93, and STS-114, is a member of the RNASA Board of Advisors who is serving her fourth year on the Stellar Awards Evaluation Panel. She was the recipient of the 2006 National Space Trophy and she received the award as NASA's first female Space Shuttle Pilot and Commander. Collins earned her associate's degree in math/science from Corning Community College in 1976, her BA in math and economics from Syracuse University in 1978, a Master of Science degree in operations research from Stanford University in 1986, and a Master of Arts degree in space systems management from Webster University in 1989. Following graduation, she was a T-38 instructor pilot and a C-141 commander and instructor. From 1986 to 1989, Collins taught math at the USAF Academy in Colorado and was a T-41 instructor. She graduated from the Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards AFB in 1990 before her selection that year as a pilot astronaut.



Eileen Collins  
RNASA Photo

**MICHAEL COATS** is a member of the RNASA Board of Advisors and is serving his third year on the Stellar Award Evaluation panel. The former astronaut and former NASA Johnson Space Center Director received the 2012 National Space Trophy. Coats received his B.S. degree from the Naval Academy in 1968 and went on to earn his pilot's wings the very next year. He flew 315 combat missions in Southeast Asia from the USS Kitty Hawk from 1970 to 1972. Following test pilot training in 1974, he was project officer and test pilot for A-7 aircraft until selection as a flight instructor at the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School in 1976. He was selected as an astronaut in 1978 and piloted STS 41D in 1984, the maiden flight of Discovery. He went on to command STS-29 and STS-39. Between 1991 and 2005, Coats worked for Loral Space Information Systems, Lockheed Martin Missiles and Space and Lockheed Martin Space Systems. He was the Director of JSC from 2005 until 2012. Under his leadership, JSC implemented over 80 partnerships and hosted summits and job fairs to help displaced workers. To help NASA attract and retain future leaders, Coats instituted the Program Project Management Development, the Space Systems Engineering Development, and the Project Leadership programs. He was inducted into the Astronaut Hall of Fame in 2007. He is now the proud full-time "Pops" to three adorable and perfect granddaughters.



Michael Coats  
RNASA Photo

**GENERAL KEVIN CHILTON** is a member of the RNASA Board of Advisors who is serving his fourth year on the Stellar Award Evaluation panel. He was the recipient of the 2011 National Space Trophy. A graduate of the U.S. Air Force (USAF) Pilot Training and Test Pilot Schools, Chilton holds a BS in engineering science from the USAF Academy and an MS in mechanical engineering from Columbia University. He was selected as an astronaut in 1987. Chilton piloted STS-49 and STS-59 and commanded STS-76 in 1996. He served as deputy program manager for the ISS until leaving NASA in 1998. From 2007 to 2011, he commanded the U.S. Strategic Command overseeing operations for all U.S. forces conducting strategic deterrence and the Department of Defense's space and cyberspace operations. He retired from the Air Force in 2011 and now serves as a Director of Orbital ATK and CenturyLink Corporations.



Kevin Chilton  
RNASA Photo

### STELLAR LUNCHEON SPEAKER

**Randy Bresnik** spoke at the Stellar Award luncheon at Lakewood Yacht Club earlier today. Bresnik earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics from The Citadel in 1989, and later a Master of Science degree in Aviation Systems from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in 2002. He was designated a Naval Aviator in 1992 and served in three overseas deployments to the Western Pacific. He went on to fly combat missions in support of Operation Southern Watch and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Bresnik was selected for the astronaut program in 2004. A veteran of STS-129, he has also trained as a Cave-a-naut with the European Space Agency to test living deep beneath the Earth's surface as well as an Aquanaut for NASA's Extreme Environment Mission Operation (NEEMO) 19. Bresnik most recently served as the Commander of the International Space Station for Expedition 53 and flight engineer for Expedition 52.



Randy Bresnik  
NASA Photo



## STELLAR NOMINEES

# EARLY CAREER

**David Autrey of UTC Aerospace Systems** - Exceptional technical leadership of Universal Waste Management Systems (UWMS) program to support NASA space exploration.

**Natalie C. Bland of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding contributions to the International Space Station life extension through structural integrity analysis and cost-effective innovations to new development projects.

**John H. Burke of the USAF AFRL** - Outstanding contributions to developing new capabilities that significantly enhance navigation performance, both with and without the Global Positioning System (GPS).

**Joseph Y. Cha of the USAF** - Outstanding leadership in preparing a \$51M facility and 30-member team for operations of an advanced satellite enabling a \$1.3B SECDEF-directed project.

**Heath Z. Cheung of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Outstanding leadership of the production restart of the RS-25 powerhead for the Space Launch System (SLS) Program.

**Jonathan Crow of the USAF** - Stellar achievement in the advancement of next-generation space-based precision navigation technologies and leadership of spacelift missions supporting national defense priorities.

**Hoang Dao of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Pioneering breakthroughs in the understanding of hall thrusters in test-like-you-fly space environments.

**Lee F. Echerd of ARES Corporation** - Outstanding leadership and technical expertise integrating SpaceX Dragon 2 with the ISS.

**Collin J. Estes of MRI Technologies** - Exceptional cutting edge technological progress in big data analytics and data correlations through API implementation, driving programmatic processes through data and process relationships.

**Ian Fischer of SpaceX** - Exceptional leadership of the Merlin engine flight operations and recovery program, including the first orbital rocket reflight.

**Creed Flynn of Orbital ATK** - Innovative use of DIC technology to validate and optimize models used to certify SLS boosters for human spaceflight.

**Sam T. Hablitzel of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Outstanding leadership, proven technical achievements and exemplary performance, helping to pave the way for space exploration.

**Anna M. Haley of ARES Corporation** - Outstanding dedication, leadership, and support to the safety and mission assurance operations of NASA for 51+ launches and mission reviews for manned and unmanned spaceflight missions.

**Luke D. Henke of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding cross-team effort to ensure timely completion of analysis products for the Space Launch System Block 1B Exploration Upper Stage Critical Design Review.

**Phoebe G. Henson of Honeywell Aerospace** - Outstanding technical and project management excellence critical to the advancement of new carbon dioxide removal technologies needed for NASA's Deep Space mission objectives.

**Melissa Higgins of Jacobs** - Outstanding contributions to Earth Science and to sharing NASA's Earth Science data with educators, students and the public.

**Derek A. Holsapple of the USAF** - Outstanding leadership of Missile Defense Agency Patriot Missile Segment Enhancement national defense test missions and the propulsion program for the Rocket Systems Launch Program rapid launch mission.

**Alexander P. Jozefov of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Outstanding design execution on the RS-25 nozzle affordability plan.

**Cory Kaufman of UTC Aerospace Systems** - Exceptional technical leadership of Universal Waste Management System (UWMS), Orion Contingency Waste Management, CST, and HMC programs supporting NASA space exploration.

**Anton P. Kiriwas of NASA Kennedy Space Center** - Outstanding EGS Ground & Flight Software Applications technical integration and exemplary leadership, contributing to the success of the United States' Deep Space Exploration mission.

**Jacob A. LaSarge of the USAF** - Exceptional technical contributions and leadership of numerous successful military space projects that enhance operational knowledge and protect vital space systems.

**Elishabet Lato of Orbital ATK** - Outstanding leadership of the Orion ACM energetics development and qualification, and community service through AIAA leadership and STEM activities.

**Ryan A. Luke of The Boeing Co.** - Technical excellence and leadership developing and supporting the production and delivery of Li-Ion battery ORUs for the ISS Program.

**Alessa Makuch of the USAF** - Outstanding technical leadership to resolve multiple launch vehicle anomalies and successfully launching national security space-priority payloads in support of warfighters across the globe.

**Benjamin J. Martin of Stinger Ghaffarian Technologies, Inc. (SGT)** - Outstanding efforts in leadership and technical excellence as an International Space Station Communications On-board Network Utilization Specialist (CRONUS) Flight Controller.

**Jennifer E. Matty of UTC Aerospace Systems** - Exceptional technical skills and leadership in product safety and reliability engineering to support NASA space exploration.

**Michael V. Nayak of the USAF AFRL** - Exceptional technical accomplishments as a researcher and military officer, including development of a new dynamical method to analyze planetary surfaces across the solar system, and an order of magnitude drop in warning time for hostile space actions using an automated four-telescope system.

**Mo T. Nguyen of Lockheed Martin** - Exceptional leadership and strategic innovation to develop integrated solutions to improve human spaceflight safety and spacecraft performance.

**Kathleen L. O'Brady of NASA Kennedy Space Center** - Significant contributions to the success of the Commercial Crew Program's mission, paving the way for NASA astronauts to be launched to the ISS from American soil on commercial vehicles.

**Molly I. Olson of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding leadership of the Next Space Technologies for Exploration Partnerships (NextSTEP) project and International Space Station on-orbit support and projects.

**Leslie K. Padilla of The Aerospace Corporation** - Outstanding leadership in the resolution of issues critical to the performance of Extravehicular Activity on the International Space Station.

**Ryan M. Patrick of the USAF** - Exceptional leadership of 33 Air Force and contractor members to develop an international spacelift mission.

**Nathan J. Pierluissi of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding contributions to the development of the functional models used to develop both the SLS Block 1 and Block 1B requirements baselines.

**Danielle Richey of Lockheed Martin** - Outstanding human space exploration architecture development for Mars base camp mission concepts.

**Benjamin Robinson of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Superior dedication to making improvements and striving for efficiency as part of the Safety and Mission Assurance (S&MA) team, resulting in providing outstanding support to technical customers.

**Daniel Rodgers of Orbital ATK** - Outstanding radio frequency engineering contributions to the Cygnus CRS Program for enhancements of the on-board communication system.

**Fernando Saca of Orbital ATK** - Exceptional systems and leadership skills contributing to the successful modifications of the enhanced Cygnus design.

**Laura Stiles of Blue Origin** - Demonstrated commitment and outstanding contributions to the successes of Blue Origin's New Shepard program, including leadership of the primary decelerator system.

**Jennifer A. Thompson of The Boeing Co.** - Demonstrated capability in developing engineering design data required to repair and rebuild failed sequential shunt units returned from the ISS.

**Holly A. Vavrin of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Excellence in the development and expansion of commercial services in low earth orbit.

**Christine Voss of Leidos** - Exemplary support of the ISS program via CMC systems engineering leadership and superior performance during CMC AS9100 Rev. C/D recertifications.

**Kimberly White of UTC Aerospace Systems** - Exceptional technical skills and project management leadership on Extravehicular Mobility Unit (EMU) and NextSTEP programs.



2017 Early Career Stellar Awardees. L to R: Kjell Lindgren (presenting), Christopher Eby, Sarah L. Wallace, Peter Masi, Russell Vela, Joey Edgar, Chelsea Shepherd, Jason Shapiro, Kate Rubins (presenting) (NASA Photo, 2017)



## STELLAR NOMINEES

# MID CAREER

**Robert M. Atkins of the USAF** - Visionary leadership in creating the first-ever launch multi-manifest office and establishing the Space Innovation Academy to educate young students about space.

**Lisa M. Barber of NASA Kennedy Space Center** - Outstanding leadership to the Business Management and Analysis Branch, contributing to the success of the Ground Systems Development and Operations (GSDO) Program.

**Kathryn Bolt of Stinger Ghaffarian Technologies, Inc. (SGT)** - Significant contribution while serving as the Flight Operations Training liaison to the Astronaut Office.

**Mason Booth of The Boeing Co.** - Exemplary design, manufacturing, and mission assurance contributions in production of launch vehicles to support NASA, NRO, and DoD missions, all achieving success at record low manufacturing, assembly and test cost within schedule targets.

**Cherlyn D. Boxie of Stinger Ghaffarian Technologies, Inc. (SGT)** - Exceptional leadership and technical contributions to Human Space Flight in Extravehicular Activity and International Space Station.

**Joshua D. Bumgarden of MRI Technologies** - Outstanding technical leadership dedicated to improvements through technology assimilation and integration, including contributions to crew safety and training.

**Thomas M. Campbell of ERC inc.** - Outstanding creative technical solution for development and demonstration of an Ejectable Data Recorder to capture test data for the Orion Ascent Abort-2 Flight test.

**Alexander Chumpitaz of the USAF** - Superior performance in space launch and operations, nuclear deterrence, and space surveillance, executing national priority missions for the President, Combatant Commanders, and joint forces across the globe.

**Trevor M. DeVault of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding effort leading the development of a third International Docking Adapter for ISS.

**Jerry Draper of Lockheed Martin** - Outstanding technical achievement in inventing the new Orion heat shield block architecture and upgrading the re-entry design for Lunar and Mars mission returns.

**Steve G. Duran of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Exceptional contributions to human-rated flight software engineering.

**Richard H. Fair of ARES Corporation** - Immense contributions to the ISS power system integration, increasing system efficiency and improving safety and reliability.

**Anthony Foti of Orbital ATK** - Exceptional technical and leadership skills of the entire Cygnus Mission Operations group.

**Michelle A. Frieling of KBRWyle** - Dedicated leadership and significant contributions to the success of NASA's astronaut health programs and space medicine research.

**Michelle M. Gray of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding support as a payload integration manager, advancing science and technology research on the ISS program.

**William E. Green of Orbital ATK** - Outstanding leadership, technical excellence and dedication to the Orion Launch Abort Attitude Control Motor Controls team success.

**Erin R. Gulden of the USAF SMC** - Outstanding leadership in solving complex technical and programmatic problems leading to numerous successful military operations and GPS capabilities for billions of users worldwide.

**Mark W. Hilburger of NASA Langley Research Center** - Outstanding technical efforts in the development of a comprehensive plan to improve shell buckling knockdown factors.

**Jeffrey P. Honse of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Innovative breakthroughs in miniaturizing AF-M315E advanced monopropellant propulsion systems for use in smallsats.

**Heidi W. Jennings of Stinger Ghaffarian Technologies, Inc. (SGT)** - Outstanding technical and leadership accomplishments during the most robotically productive period in the history of the International Space Station.

**Brian J. Johnson of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Tireless dedication to advancing the nation's exploration EVA goals and ensuring that future human exploration programs have the capabilities needed to explore the solar system.

**Teresa M. Jones of ARES Corporation** - Outstanding leadership and sustained superior performance in safety mission assurance activities for 278+ manned and unmanned launches spanning the Shuttle, ISS, expendable launch vehicles, and unique first flight tests from 2008 to the present.

**Lara E. Kearney of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Outstanding contributions to the Orion Crew and Service Module Office.

**Galen Kulp of UTC Aerospace Systems** - Exceptional technical skills leadership in product safety and reliability engineering to support NASA space exploration.

**Adalberto Lara of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Outstanding leadership, technical excellence, and innovation resulting in key contributions to the 100% mission success of multiple rocket engine and space system power products.

**Stephen C. Letter of the USAF SMC** - Outstanding support to our nation's spacelift missions as a deputy program manager, and mission-saving solutions for our nation's growing commercial launch demands while saving millions of dollars.

**Laura M. Lucier of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Outstanding contributions to operations and robotics for human spaceflight, contributing to the successes of the Space Shuttle and International Space Station programs.

**David E. Margrave of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Exceptional leadership during the RS-25 engine hot fire test campaigns.

**Justin McFatter of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding leadership and outstanding support of the NASA Docking Systems Project.

**Chad W. Melone of the USAF** - Outstanding leadership of 33 military, government civilian and contractor personnel to develop and build two space launch missions and one target launch missions.

**Westly Mosedale of NASA Kennedy Space Center** - Exemplary leadership, initiative and coordination of mobile launcher umbilical test operations for the Exploration Ground Systems Program at the launch equipment test facility.

**Rocky E. Nelson of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding contributions and dedication to ensure the Exploration Upper Stage (EUS) thermal design surpasses expectations.

**Dennis W. Pate of SAIC** - Unwavering dedication, knowledge and technical expertise in human factors, spacecraft design, and flight operations, contributing to crew safety and mission success in U.S. human spaceflight.

**Audrey Powers of Blue Origin** - Outstanding leadership of the New Shepard FAA operational licensing to assure systems safety needed for human space flight operations.

**Satish C. Reddy of Jacobs** - Outstanding innovations, leadership and contributions to structural analysis and human spaceflight.

**Lawrence M. Robertson of the USAF AFRL** - Exceptional contributions to developing new capabilities that significantly enhance navigation performance of guidance, navigation and control.

**Lisa Rodriguez of MRI Technologies** - Technical excellence in the development, implementation, and management of numerous Orion program systems engineering and integration change control board processes and innovations.

**Erica Sandoval of Orbital ATK** - Exemplary contributions to the engineering of the Orion spacecraft's launch abort motor.

**Mark Slosser of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Outstanding design leadership and execution of the RS-25 nozzle affordability plan.

**Cheryl Slyter of Jacobs** - Outstanding technical and leadership skills, including expertise in NASA robotics.

**Jeffrey T. Somers of KBRWyle** - Exemplary leadership and technical excellence in conducting life science research to develop spacecraft standards to protect space explorers.

**Robert Thompson of Orbital ATK** - Outstanding leadership of the Cygnus software engineering and system fault protection design teams.

**John C. Tutt of Jacobs** - Outstanding contributions in engineering and project management for human spaceflight.

**Christopher D. Wade of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Outstanding development, certification, and demonstration of innovative approaches to enhance use of ground-operated robotics to enable the crew to perform additional science on the ISS.



2017 Mid Career Stellar Awardees. L to R: Kate Rubins (presenting), Robert A. Mase, Kenneth Utley, Richard R. Beckman, Charles V. Seal III, Kenneth J. Anderle, Jeffrey C. Bemis, Ronald K. Baccus, Carolyn Overmyer, Gary Lai, Kjell Lindgren (presenting) (NASA Photo, 2017)



## STELLAR NOMINEES

# LATE CAREER

**Lee J. Archambault of Sierra Nevada Corporation** - Outstanding leadership of the highly successful Dream Chaser Approach And Landing Test #2 (ALT-2) at Edwards Air Force Base in November 2017.

**Joseph A. Belisle of UTC Aerospace Systems** - Sustained leadership, performance and commitment to the safety and operational excellence of human spaceflight extravehicular activity.

**Gary L. Brown of Booz Allen Hamilton** - Exceptional leadership in advancing NASA Human Space Flight programs through disciplined systems engineering processes and resolution of complex technical challenges.

**Wesley R. Bruner of The Boeing Co.** - Successful founding and leadership of the Boeing Houston Dynamics and Controls team responsible for integrated control system and structural dynamics analysis for the ISS Program.

**Michele J. Bruno of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding service as the SLS RS-25 engine integration lead, responsible for the engine interface requirements definition, design, integration, and the RS-25 Engine Pathfinder project.

**Jeffrey L. Burnett of Orbital ATK** - Exceptional leadership of the Cygnus Avionics team in development of the Cygnus avionics, including the second generation avionics suite.

**David M. Clemen of The Boeing Co.** - Innovative solutions to complex issues and projects over the life of the ISS Program, including project management on Integrated Communications Unit and NASA Docking Systems projects.

**Susan L. Crippen of Stinger Ghaffarian Technologies, Inc. (SGT)** - Sustained GN&C instructional excellence for a generation of astronauts and flight controllers providing lasting impact to NASA's success.

**Karen J. Dahlman of Jacobs** - Distinguished contracts career that has enhanced the effectiveness of NASA's manned and unmanned programs through procurement approaches maximizing an innovative blend of project management, acquisition strategies, and requirements definition.

**Carlos F. Enriquez of The Boeing Co.** - Significant contributions to the success of many mechanical systems on the ISS.

**Daryl Ethington of Jacobs** - Outstanding dedication and technical expertise in setting standards for manned testing for human spaceflight.

**Mark Ewing of Orbital ATK** - Outstanding innovations that have advanced designs of solid rocket propulsion systems across the industry.

**Mark E. Eyster of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Exceptional leadership, technical excellence, and innovation that have contributed to 100% mission success during his 29 year career at Aerojet Rocketdyne.

**Thomas H. Franssen of The Boeing Co.** - Exceptional contributions to the International Space Station development, sustainment and technological advancement in support of continued human space exploration.

**George A. Gebhart of UTC Aerospace Systems** - Distinguished career spanning 30 years, ensuring operational readiness and high quality hardware availability for critical life support space applications.

**Robert Goldstein of Oceaneering Space Systems** - Outstanding contributions to numerous manned and unmanned space flight programs for over three decades of softgoods and hardware manufacturing.

**Dianna L. Groce of MRI Technologies** - Demonstrated excellence in integration and communication on large Space Programs, through team building and technical pursuit.

**Douglas J. Gruendel of NASA HQ** - Exceptional service for the advancement of the Space Life and Physical Sciences mission expanding human presence in space.

**Daniel W. Hartman of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Exceptional leadership and expertise advancing the mission of NASA through the accomplishments of the International Space Station Program.

**Kritina Holden, Ph.D. of Leidos** - Exceptional dedication, hard work, and technical excellence in applying human factors expertise to improving human spaceflight.

**Curtis Johnson of Blue Origin** - Outstanding leadership of primary propulsion development at Blue Origin as it grew from a small team to a major innovator in the global aerospace industry.

**Elizabeth T. Jones of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Outstanding program and technical leadership of the main propulsions systems that were critical to success of many NASA Earth science and planetary exploration missions.

**Rachel R. Kamenetzky of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Exemplary, innovative, and extensive contributions to NASA's human spaceflight programs through pursuit of excellence in the discipline of materials and processes, assuring mission success while preserving safety.

**Joseph E. Madden of NASA Kennedy Space Center** - Exceptional contributions to the advancement of Human Space Flight, and outstanding performance exhibited during the Command, Control and Communications Project at the Kennedy Space Center.

**William D. Manha of Jacobs** - Outstanding contributions as a pressure system safety expert whose life-long career has impacted the ability to perform exploration and science activities in space.

**Mark A. Markovich of SAIC** - Pioneering software safety and assurance technical expertise that has contributed to the quality, safety, and mission success of NASA's human space flight programs.

**Terry L. McGee of The Boeing Co.** - Exemplary leadership and meritorious expertise in dynamic analysis, mechanical design and manufacturing, with many notable contributions to designs which increase efficiency and first-time quality during manufacturing, testing, and launch operation phases.

**Trent C. Mills of ARES Corporation** - Outstanding contributions to the areas of Cross-Program Imagery and Integrated Communications, Network and Tracking for Exploration programs.

**John A. Murphy of Orbital ATK** - Outstanding contributions in determining loads and environments in the ACM valve leading to positive margins using novel materials.

**Neil H. Orr of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Outstanding support to the AR1 Program in its quest to develop domestic oxygen-rich staged combustion engine technology for national security launches.

**Joseph F. Padavano of ARES Corporation** - Exceptional career accomplishments and leadership in engineering design and development of launch engine systems and components for both human and unmanned space flight, spanning 37 years of space flight.

**Jose O. Perez Morales of NASA Kennedy Space Center** - Exceptional contributions to the advancement of Human Spaceflight, and outstanding performance and professionalism exhibited during the Vehicle Assembly Building Platform installation at the Kennedy Space Center.

**Susan B. Rainwater of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Outstanding leadership in flight operations that contributed to the successes of the Space Shuttle, Hubble Space Telescope, and International Space Station Programs.

**Robert T. Richards of Orbital ATK** - Exemplary career contributions as an industry leader in the areas of launch vehicles and human space systems.

**Randall L. Riddle of USAF** - Exemplary leadership of 38 personnel to develop and build a NASA Orion Abort Test Booster mission.

**David Rigby of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding leadership and expertise in propulsion that embodies the personal commitment necessary for the safe design and operation of space vehicles, both historic and current.



2017 Late Career Stellar Awardees. L to R: Kate Rubins (presenting), Marc D. Rayman, Kamal S. Ghaffarian, Dale Cloud, Jeffrey R. Davis, Michael A. Melgares, John B. Vollmer, Kenneth O. Todd, Mark Ferguson, Scott R. McIntyre, Kjell Lindgren (presenting) (NASA Photo, 2017)

**Lee A. Ryberg of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Significant innovation in driving affordability into rocket engine products.

**Steve Salazar of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Exceptional leadership and attention to detail, ensuring high quality hardware for NASA's human spaceflight programs.

**Frank Salazar of CACI** - Significant engineering knowledge and expertise contributing to the design of numerous human spaceflight pyrotechnic hardware systems, including multiple parachute elements of the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle Program.

**Clarence F. Sams of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Distinguished career achievements as an exceptionally innovative scientist committed to improving astronaut health and human exploration of space by understanding how human physiology reacts and adapts in spaceflight.

**Scott Schneider of UTC Aerospace Systems** - Exceptional technical skills and leadership in product safety and reliability engineering for NASA space exploration.

**William Schoolmeyer of Jacobs** - For a technical and leadership career in computational fluid dynamics, aerodynamics, aerothermodynamics, and vehicle dynamics/performance analysis.

**Carolyn B. Sheaff of the USAF AFRL** - Internationally recognized technical excellence and leadership in sensor and data fusion

and SSA scientific research and development to preserve US space superiority and free use of space by all nations.

**Scott M. Smith of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Exceptional innovative contributions, leadership, and dedication to the field of nutritional biochemistry in spaceflight.

**Terry Soich of Honeywell Aerospace** - Exemplary career developing and sustaining avionics and software used on the International Space Station.

**Lisa D. Spencer of the USAF SMC** - Outstanding leadership in planning and executing acquisition and sustainment actions supporting the \$12 billion dollar space range system.

**David M. Wilt of the USAF AFRL** - Outstanding contributions to developing new capabilities that significantly enhance spacecraft power research and technologies.

**Edmond Wong of NASA Glenn Research Center** - Exceptional technical leadership in the development of data qualification capabilities to ensure Space Launch System crew and vehicle safety.

**Karl E. Yeanoplos of Lockheed Martin** - Outstanding performance in the structural analysis and structural qualification of NASA's Orion spacecraft.

Congratulations to  
**Robert Lightfoot**  
and the *Stellar and Communicator Award* winners

The Horizon Beckons Us All

With technical expertise in IT, engineering, and science, Leidos is proud to enable more mission for organizations that conduct space exploration, advance human spaceflight, and encourage the world to think beyond the horizon.

[leidos.com/space](http://leidos.com/space)

© 2018 LEIDOS. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



## STELLAR NOMINEES

# STELLAR TEAM

**Active Thermal Control System (ATCS) "White Flakes" Team of The Boeing Co.** - Outstanding technical expertise in the detection and isolation of "white flakes" and leaking ammonia on the International Space Station.

**Advanced Exploration Systems Avionics and Software Team of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Outstanding contributions in developing an avionics and software architecture that will benefit the nation's space program for the benefit of all humankind.

**Advanced Pressure Garment Z-2 Neutral Buoyancy Lab (NBL) Test Team of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Outstanding performance in the planning, execution and completion of the first ever exploration spacesuit test series in the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory.

**AFRL/RI Space Situational Awareness (SSA) Team of the USAF AFRL** - Pioneering achievements in addressing the challenges of the modern space environment that is crowded, contested and debris laden, using innovative techniques, algorithms and strategies for space object characterization, sensor tasking and data collection.

**Alternative Handling for Fluid Hazard Control Team of The Boeing Co.** - Innovative development of an alternative fluid hazard control device for ISS open-cabin usage.

**Applied Research Engineering Services Corporation's NASA Office of Safety and Mission Assurance Engineering Support Services Team** - Outstanding accomplishment and teamwork implementing and operating NASA's Safety and Mission Assurance program ensuring safe flight for human and unmanned launches and missions spanning over 412 missions.

**AR1 40K Subscale Staged Combustion Test Team of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Successful design, fabrication, and testing of a subscale staged combustion engine as the crucial first step towards AR1 rocket engine development.

**Architecture and Plans Branch of the USAF** - Exemplary initiative and analytical rigor to influence major pathfinders and advances in the protection of National Security Space capabilities.



2017 Team Stellar Awardees. L to R: Kjell Lindgren (presenting), Steven Van Keuren (ISS Oxygen Generator Assembly Recovery Team), Brian Vesey (GPS IIF Team), Robert Rossato (EVA 35 Recovery Team), Jon Edwards (Falcon 9 Team), Marc Rayman (Dawn Flight Team), Steve Hobart (New Shepard Team), Keith Davies (Next Generation Cygnus Design Team), Kate Rubins (presenting) (NASA Photo, 2017)



# A Spirit of Innovation and Integrity

**CACI congratulates Mr. Robert Lightfoot, winner of the National Space Trophy, for his extraordinary accomplishments toward achieving NASA's vision.**

We salute all the 2018 Stellar Award nominees and winners for their dedication to space exploration. We understand that a spirit of innovation and integrity is at the core of success, and we thank NASA for honoring these heroes of the American space program.

CACI has a legacy of supporting the NASA human space flight mission since 1969.

**AGILE SOLUTIONS FOR CRITICAL ADVANTAGE**

**CACI**  
EVER VIGILANT

[www.caci.com](http://www.caci.com)

A *Fortune* World's Most  
Admired Company

# Thank You & Congratulations

## Mr. Lightfoot



GEOCONTROL SYSTEMS, INC.

**Center of Excellence for Collaborative Innovation Team of NASA Johnson Space Center** - Exceptional efforts in developing a new model for crowdsourcing to improve NASA's ability to accelerate and augment research and development efforts.

**Commercial Crew Program Landing and Recovery Team of NASA Kennedy Space Center** - Outstanding achievement in preparation for and execution of the first joint rescue training development exercise across NASA, the US Armed Forces and SpaceX crew recovery teams.

**Draper & Sierra Nevada Corporation Dream Chaser Approach and Landing Test Avionics and Software Team of Draper** - Exceptional teamwork in conducting the successful Dream Chaser approach and landing test in November 2017.

**Dream Chaser Engineering Test Article Deployed Test Team of Sierra Nevada Corporation** - Exemplary and successful execution of a complex ground and flight test plan at the Armstrong Flight Research Center, paving the way for orbital flight of the Dream Chaser spacecraft.

**Engility International Space Station Independent Verification and Validation Team** - Significant contributions to ensuring ISS crew safety and mission success through software assurance, test, and independent verification and validation of ISS safety-critical software systems.

**Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle Service Agreement Other Transaction Authority Team of the USAF** - Outstanding development and execution of a multi-year strategy to end United States reliance on RD-180 engines and guarantee access to space for critical national security assets.

**FDOC High Volume Data Downlink (HVDD) Software Team of Leidos** - Exceptional teamwork in quadrupling Orbital Communications Adapter Management System throughput for Space Station science and commercial customers.

**Genes in Space STEM Research Team of The Boeing Co.** - Ingenuity resulting in increased molecular biology analysis capability on the ISS to promote DNA science, genetics, and biotechnology.

**Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (R-Series) GOES-R Team of Lockheed Martin** - Exceptional teamwork in revolutionizing severe storm forecasting across the United States with outstanding on-orbit performance of the GOES-R Satellite.

**Human Rated Spacecraft Frangible Joint Assessment Team of NASA Langley Research Center** - Outstanding contributions conducting the NASA Engineering and Safety Center frangible joint assessment.

**Human Test Support Group (HTSG) of KBRwyle** - Outstanding team dedication to enabling NBL operations and training, supporting the Astronaut office, EVA Office, Human Health and Performance Directorate, and the NBL.

**Integrated Spacecraft and Payload Element Structural Test Team of NASA Marshall Space Flight Center** - Exceptional commitment, diligence, and technical excellence in completion of the first large-scale structural test of NASA's SLS rocket.

**James Webb Space Telescope Test Team of Jacobs** - Exceptional contributions to space exploration with the successful completion of the James Webb Space Telescope cryo-vacuum test program at the NASA Johnson Space Center.

**Land Landing Qualification Test 1B1 (LLQT-1B1) Team of The Boeing Co.** - Successful development and execution of a complex land drop test campaign of the CST-100 capsule at the NASA Langley Research Center, validating the airbag system attenuation performance of the first U.S. capsule designed to land on land or water.

**Lockheed Martin Orion Launch Abort System Propulsion Team** - Outstanding accomplishment in successfully completing two high-visibility hot fire tests to validate solid rocket motor designs for NASA's Orion Launch Abort System.

**Marshall Engineering Technician and Trades Support (METTS) Ground Support Equipment (GSE) Fabrication, Assembly and Integration Team of Aerie Aerospace, LLC** - Exceptional craftsmanship and dedication towards the successful fabrication, assembly and integration of SLS Ground Support Equipment.

**Mission and Program Integration International Space Station Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) Team of ARES Corporation** - Outstanding achievement in the development of the ISS PRA model for the Extravehicular Mobility Unit used to improve crew safety.

**Multi Mission Satellite Operations Center (MMSOC) 2.1 Initial Operational Capability Team of the USAF SMC** - Outstanding achievement in the successful design, development, integration and deployment of MMSOC 2.1 in support of ORS-5 flight operations.

**Orion Launch Abort System (LAS) Attitude Control Motor (ACM) HT-11 Team of Orbital ATK** - Successful completion of the HT-11 test, clearing the way to qualification on the world's only human-rated controllable solid fuel motor and demonstrating that the design meets NASA spaceflight requirements.

**Orion Spacecraft Test and Qualification Team of Lockheed Martin** - Outstanding execution of the Orion spacecraft test program in support of NASA's Exploration Missions EM-1, EM-2 and beyond.

**Pad 39B Development Team of NASA Kennedy Space Center** - Exceptional teamwork and dedication to the GSDO Program, successful completion of the Pad 39B modification projects, and for readiness to support the upcoming EM-1 mission at the Kennedy Space Center.



**Remote Sensing Exploitation Capability Team of the USAF** - Exceptional development, demonstration, automation and transition of operational remote sensing capabilities.

**Rocket Test Facility Co-Location Team of NASA Stennis Space Center** - Outstanding teamwork in co-locating two critical rocket test programs for the nation.

**Roll-Out Solar Array (ROSA) Team of the USAF AFRL** - Outstanding team contributions to developing new solar array capabilities, significantly reducing mass and cost.

**RS-25 Assembly Team of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Exceptional service to human spaceflight with the early delivery of Exploration Mission 1 flight engines.

**RS-25 Engine Control System Team of Aerojet Rocketdyne** - Engineering excellence in the design, development and delivery of the RS-25 rocket engine control system.

**Saffire Project Team of NASA Glenn Research Center** - Innovative contributions using new approaches in the successful design, build and operation of Saffire I/II/III and achieving complete mission success.

**Space Launch System (SLS) Avionics and Controls System Level Qualification Team of Orbital ATK** - Exceptional team work and successful completion of system level qualification of the

avionics system for the solid rocket boosters for NASA's Space Launch System.

**SpaceX Autonomous Flight Termination System Team** - Outstanding technical leadership of the Autonomous Flight Safety System development program.

**Stinger Ghaffarian Technology's (SGT's) Neutral Buoyancy Lab (NBL) Extravehicular Vehicular Activity (EVA) Tools and Crew Aids (ETCA) Refill the Bins Team** - Outstanding team accomplishment in redesign and refurbishment of the ETCA used to support mission critical EVA training.

**USAF Launch Vehicle Team for the NASA Orion Ascent Abort-2 Mission** - Successful USAF team development of the flight launch vehicle for the NASA Orion Ascent Abort-2 crew safety system test mission.

**UTC Aerospace Systems Parker Solar Probe Thermal Control Team** - Outstanding accomplishments on a very unique cooling system for the NASA Parker Solar Probe Spacecraft.



asrcfederal.com

# ASRC FEDERAL

Customer-Focused. Operationally Excellent.

**MEI Technologies, Inc.**

Congratulates

**Mr. Robert Lightfoot**  
NASA Acting Administrator

**2018 National Space Trophy Recipient**

MEI Technologies, Inc. (MEIT) also commends all of the Stellar Award nominees on their dedication and contributions to our nation's space program.



www.MEITechn.com



**THE PATH  
FORWARD  
LIES IN THE  
STARS.**

FACEBOOK.COM/XPLOREDEEPSPACE

@XPLOREDEEPSPACE

EXPLOREDEEPSPACE.COM

**CONGRATULATIONS  
ROBERT LIGHTFOOT**

Leaders emerge from hard work, dedication, and something else – a personal quality grounded in both service and vision. The Coalition for Deep Space Exploration salutes Robert Lightfoot for his decades of service and his leadership of NASA and the aerospace industry, advancing our nation's achievements and vision in space exploration, space science, technology, and commerce.

Thank you, Robert.



THE COALITION FOR  
DEEP SPACE EXPLORATION



**ROTARY NATIONAL AWARD FOR SPACE ACHIEVEMENT**

**BOARD OF ADVISORS**

George W.S. Abbey  
James F. Albaugh  
Arnold D. Aldrich  
Edward C. Aldridge  
Jim Asker  
Norman R. Augustine  
Charles F. Bolden  
David E. Bowles  
Dan Brandenstein  
Robert D. Cabana  
Lisa Callahan  
Donald J. Campbell  
Jeffrey E. Carr  
Mark E. Carreau  
David Cazes  
Kevin P. Chilton  
Michael L. Coats  
Eileen M. Collins  
Richard O. Covey  
Robert Crippen  
Frank L. Culbertson  
Ronald D. Dittmore  
Charles Elachi  
John W. Elbon  
Joe H. Engle  
G. Allen Flynt  
James M. Free  
Donald Fuqua  
William H. Gerstenmaier  
Gerald D. Griffin  
Michael D. Griffin  
John M. Grunsfeld  
Jim Hartz  
J. Milt Heflin  
Cynthia Hendershot  
Jorge Hernandez  
Richard J. Hieb  
Tommy W. Holloway  
Neil B. Hutchinson

Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sandra G. Johnson  
John C. Karas  
Janet L. Kavandi  
Joseph P. Kerwin  
Eugene F. Kranz  
Debbie Kropp  
Glynn S. Lunney  
Sandra H. Magnus  
Todd A. May  
David D. McBride  
Vernon McDonald  
Robert E. Meyerson  
Lon Miller  
Bob Mitchell  
George C. Nield  
Miles O'Brien  
Ellen Ochoa  
William W. Parsons  
J. Gregory Pavlovich  
Thomas B. Pickens  
William F. Readdy  
Kenneth S. Reightler  
Harrison H. Schmitt  
Christopher J. Scolese  
Brewster H. Shaw  
Mark N. Sirangelo  
Thomas P. Stafford  
William A. Staples  
Charles M. Stegemoeller  
Richard D. Stephens  
Michael Suffredini  
Edward M. Swallow  
Richard H. Truly  
William Vantine  
Elizabeth Wagner  
George Whitesides  
John W. Young

**Congratulations to  
Mr. Robert Lightfoot**

**2018 National Space  
Trophy Recipient**



**Safety isn't expensive, it's priceless**

[www.spa.com](http://www.spa.com)

# C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

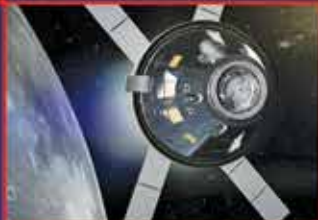
to the 2018 Stellar Award Winners and this year's National Space Trophy Recipient:



## ROBERT M. LIGHTFOOT

2018 NATIONAL SPACE TROPHY RECIPIENT

We salute your many achievements and dedicated leadership that was instrumental to the success of the Space Shuttle Program and have helped ignite a new era of human spaceflight with the development of the Space Launch System and Orion spacecraft.



# JACOBS®

worldwide | [jacobs.com](http://jacobs.com)