

# NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

## BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

**NAME:** John W. Aaron

**ORAL HISTORY:** 18 January 2000  
21 January 2000  
26 January 2000

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

B.S. in Physics, Southwestern State College, Weatherford, Oklahoma, 1964

**NASA CAREER:**

NASA Manned Spacecraft Center/Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas

- Gemini Systems Branch, Flight Operations Directorate
  - Gemini Vehicle Systems Engineer, Gemini Systems Section (1964-1965)
  - Backup Electrical, Environmental and Communications (EECOM) Officer, Gemini Systems Section (1965)
  - Prime EECOM Office, Gemini Systems Section (1965-1966)
- Chief EECOM Officer, Command & Service Module/Gemini Systems Branch (1966 Gemini, 1967-1969 Apollo)
- CSM Systems Branch
  - Chief EECOM Officer (1967-1969)
  - Section Head, Electrical Power, Electrical & Instrumentation Systems Section (1969-1973)
  - Project Manager, Environmental Control & Thermal Systems (1969-1973)
- Spacecraft Software Division
  - Technical Assistant to the Chief (1973-1976)
  - Project Manager, Approach & Landing & Orbital Tests Flight Software (1976-1979)
  - Assistant Chief (1979-1980)
  - Acting Chief (1980-1981)
  - Chief (1981-1984)
- Deputy Manager, Space Station Level B Program Office (1984-1986)
- Acting Manager, Space Station Program (1986-1987)

Acting Assistant Administrator, Exploration, NASA Headquarters, Washington, D.C. (1987-1988)

NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas

- Technical Assistant to the Director, Johnson Space Center (1988-1989)
- Manager, Space Station Projects Office (1989-1993)
- Assistant Director, Engineering Directorate (1993)
- Manager, Engineering Integration Office, Engineering Directorate (1993-1994)
- Manager, Systems Engineering Office, Engineering Directorate (1994-Present)

**AWARDS & CITATIONS:**

- Sustained Superior Performance Award, 1966, 1969
- Outstanding Performance Rating, 1969, 1980
- Letter of Commendation From Apollo 12 Flight Director, 1969
- Superior Performance Award, 1970, 1974
- Exceptional Service Medal, 1970
- Quality Salary Increase, 1976, 1977
- Special Achievement Award, 1980, 1981
- Exceptional Engineering Achievement Award, 1981
- Outstanding Performance Rating, 1985
- President Rank Award for Meritorious Executive, 1986, 1992

**SELECT PUBLICATIONS:**

Aaron, John, "A White Paper on Prime Software Cost Estimates: Cost Commitment Team Recommendations," NASA, December 1986.

Aaron, John, "The Challenge of Human Exploration," Washington, D.C.: NASA, 1988.

Aaron, John, Edward A. Gabris, Frank M. Sulzman, Mary M. Connors, and Carl Pilcher. "Making a Home in Space," AeroSpace America 27 (April 1989), pp 30-32.

Aaron, John, George D. Hopson, and Richard L. Grant, "Space Station Freedom Pressurized Element Interior Design Process," Huntsville, AL: NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, 1990.

**BIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:**

NASA Biographical Data Sheet (July 1998), John W. Aaron, Biographical File, Public Affairs Office, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

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