

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Paul E. Purser

ORAL HISTORY: 3 February 1999

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

BS in Aeronautical Engineering, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, 1939
Graduate student, University of Virginia, Extension 1942-1944

PRE-NASA CAREER:

Glenn L. Martin Company, Baltimore Maryland
Aeronautical Engineer, Langley Laboratory, NACA, Langley, Virginia (1939-1958)

NASA CAREER:

Research Engineer, Space Task Group, Langley Research Center, Hampton, Virginia
(1958-1962)
Special Assistant to the Director of the Manned Spacecraft Center, Houston, Texas
(1962-1970)
Special Assistant to the President of the University of Houston (1968-1969)
Consultant NASA Manned Spacecraft Center, Houston, Texas (1970-1971)

POST-NASA CAREER:

Consultant, Paul E. Purser, P.E., Houston, Texas (1970-)
Senior Systems Engineer, GURC, Bellaire, Texas (1974-1984)
Consultant, National Academy of Engineering, Washington, DC (1972-1982)

PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:

- Member, Army Picatinny Arsenal Fin-Stabilized Ammunition Committee 1955-1956
- Alternate, NACA member on Special Advisory Group on the Navy Polaris Missile 1957
- Member, NASA Research Advisory Committee on Structures 1960
- Member, Research Advisory Committee of Texas University and College Coordinating Board 1966-1967
- Member, Tau Beta Pi, National Honorary Engineering Society
- Member, Omicron Delta Kappa, National Honorary Leadership Society
- Member, Sigma Gamma Tau, National Honorary Aerospace Engineering Society
- Member, Board of Directors, Houston-Harris County Red Cross
- Member, Board of Directors, Houston Museum of Natural Science.

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- MSC certificate of Commendation for work on the space program, 1965
- NASA Group Achievement Awards, 1964, 1967

SELECT PUBLICATIONS:

Purser, Paul E., Maxime A. Faget, and Norman F. Smith, eds. Manned Spacecraft: Engineering Design and Operation. New York: Fairchild Publications, 1964.

BIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

American Men & Women of Science: A Biographical Directory of Today's Leaders in Physical, Biological and Related Sciences. 18th - 20th Edition. New York: R.R. Bowker, 1992-1998, s.v. "Purser, Paul E."

Tinucci, Barbara A. ed. Who's Who in Technology Today. 4th Edition. Lake Bluf, IL: Research Publications, J. Dick Publishing, 1984. _

Who's Who in Frontiers of Science and Technology. 2nd Edition. Chicago: Marquis Who's Who, Inc., 1985, s.v. "Purser, Paul E."

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