



Robert L. Crippen CAPT USN (Ret.)
 “Crip”

Date of Designation: November 1961

Dates of Active Duty: June 1960 - January 1990

Total Flight Hours: 6,500

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 268

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 6,260 Prop: 173 VF/ VA: 810
 VT: 320 Other: Rocket: 564 NASA

NASA:

Shuttle Columbia STS-1 April 1981
 Shuttle Challenger STS-7 June 1983
 Shuttle Challenger STS-41C April 1984
 Shuttle Challenger STS-41G October 1984

Flight Performance Awards:

Congressional Space Medal of Honor
 Defense Distinguished Service Medal
 Navy Distinguished Flying Cross
 Defense Superior Service Medal
 2 Defense Meritorious Service Medal
 2 NASA Distinguished Service Medal
 NASA Leadership Medal
 NASA Exceptional Service Medal
 NASA Public Service Medal
 Goddard Memorial Trophy
 Harmon Trophy
 SETP Ivan C. Kincheloe Award
 SETP J. H. Doolittle Award
 American Astronautical Flight Achievement Award
 Astronaut Hall of Fame
 Collier Trophy
 National Aviation Hall of Fame
 Circumnavigators Magellan Award



Duty Assignment Chronology

- 6/60-9/60 Aviation Officer Candidate, NAS Pensacola
 9/60-11/61 Navy Flight Training, NAS
 Saufley, Whiting, Beeville, (T-34B, T-28B/C,
 F9F, F11F).
- 12/61-6/62 VA-43 RAG, NAS Oceana (A4).
- 6/62-11/64 VA-72, NAS Oceana/CVA 62 (A4).
- 12/64/5/67 USAF Aerospace Research Pilot School,
 Edwards AFB, Test Pilot Student (65),
 Academic & Flight Test Instructor (66),
 Manned Orbiting Laboratory Student (67),
 (T-33A, T-38A, F-106A/B, F-104A/B/D,
 B-26, B-47E, B-57E, NF-100F, H-13).
- 6/67-8/69 Astronaut, Manned Orbiting Laboratory
 Program, Los Angeles AFS (T-33A, T-38A).
- 8/69-1/90 Astronaut, NASA Johnson Space Center,
 (T-33A, T-38A, C-135A, B-47, G-IV,
 OV101 Columbia, OV 99 Challenger).
- 1/90-1/92 Director Space Shuttle Program (SES 6),
 NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC.
- 1/92-1/95 Director Kennedy Space Center, Kennedy
 Space Center, FL.
- 3-95-11/96 VP Simulation Systems, Lockheed Martin,
 Orlando, FL.
- 12/96-4/01 President, Thiokol Propulsion, Brigham
 City, Utah.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) First squadron tour was with VA-72 on East
 Coast deployments to Mediterranean, North Sea &
 Caribbean. Deployed off Gitmo during Cuban Missile
 Crisis.
- (2) Reported to AF Test Pilot School at Edwards AFB
 with Chuck Yeager as the Commadant. Was selected
 in the second group of Astronauts for the DOD
 Manned Orbiting Laboratory (MOL), a classified

Summary of Significant Career Events continued

military 30 day mission in space. Remained as an instructor at the School until receiving my clearance for the program. Then reported to Los Angeles working on MOL development. The program was canceled in June, 1969 after which seven of the MOL Astronauts, including myself, were reassigned to the NASA Astronaut Office.

- (3) Served as a Support Astronaut for all of the Skylab missions and the Apollo Soyuz Test Project with the Russians. Flew the first orbital Shuttle flight (STS-1) aboard Columbia with John Young. Commanded three Shuttle mission aboard Challenger, STS-7, STS-41C & STS-41G. Assigned as Commander of first Shuttle mission from Vandenberg AFB which never flew due to the Challenger accident.
- (4) Following the accident, served as Director of Space Shuttle Program in Washington, D.C. and then Director of Kennedy Space Center working on return to flight.
- (5) Retired as Captain in January 1990 and entered government service as an SES 6.
- (6) Retired in January 1995 from government service and worked as VP Simulation Systems for Lockheed Martin and then as President of Thiokol Propulsion until retirement in April 2001.
- (7) Married to former NASA engineer Pandora Puckett of Miami, Florida. Three daughters from a previous marriage, 7 grand children, 6 great grand children.