

20TH CENTURY EXPLORER



Scientist-astronaut Owen K. Garriott, Skylab 3 science pilot, is seen performing a space-walk activity at the Apollo Telescope Mount (ATM) of the Skylab space station cluster in Earth orbit.

Owen K. Garriott was born in Enid and graduated from Enid High School in 1948. He received a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Oklahoma in 1953. He continued his education at Stanford University where he received a Ph.D. in electrical engineering in 1960. He completed a one-year U.S. Air Force Pilot Training Program in 1966, receiving qualification as pilot in jet aircraft.

In 1965, Garriott was one of the six scientist-astronauts selected by NASA. His first spaceflight, the Skylab 3 mission in 1973, set a world record for duration of approximately 60 days, more than double the previous record. Extensive experiments were conducted of the sun, of Earth resources, and in various life sciences relating to human adaptation to weightlessness.

His second space flight was aboard STS-9 (Spacelab-1) in 1983, a multidisciplinary and international mission of 10 days aboard Space Shuttle Columbia. More than 70 separate experiments in six different disciplines were conducted, primarily to demonstrate the suitability of Spacelab for research in all these areas. He operated the world's first amateur radio station from space, W5LFL, which expanded into an important activity on dozens of shuttle flights, Space Station Mir and the International Space Station, with scores of astronauts and cosmonauts participating.

Between these missions, Garriott received a NASA fellowship at Stanford and held the posts of deputy director, acting director, and director of science and applications at Johnson Space Center. From 1984 to 1986, he held the position of project scientist in the Space Station Project Office, working closely with the external scientific communities and advised the project manager concerning the scientific suitability of the space station design.

After leaving NASA in June 1986, Garriott consulted for various aerospace companies and served as a member of several NASA and National Research Council Committees.

From January 1988 until May 1993, he was vice president of space programs at Teledyne Brown Engineering. This division, which grew to more than 1,000 people, provided payload integration for all Spacelab projects at the Marshall Space Flight Center and had a substantial role in the development of the U.S. laboratory for the International Space Station.

Garriott has devoted time to several charitable activities in his hometown, including the Enid Arts and Sciences Foundation and Leonardo's Discovery Warehouse.



OWEN K. GARRIOTT
NASA ASTRONAUT