



Lt. Col. Michael P. Anderson, USAF

Personal Data: Born Dec. 25, 1959. Married with two daughters.

Education: Graduated from Cheney High School, Class of 1977. Bachelor of Science degree in physics/astronomy from University of Washington (Seattle, Wash.), 1981. Master of Science degree in physics from Creighton University (Omaha, Nebr.), 1990.

Experience: Anderson was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1981, following graduation from the University of Washington. After completing technical training at Keesler AFB, Mississippi, he was assigned to Randolph AFB Texas where he served as chief of communication maintenance for the 2015 Communication Squadron and later as director of information system maintenance for the 1920 Information System Group. In 1986, he was selected to attend Undergraduate Pilot Training at Vance AFB, Oklahoma. Upon graduation, Anderson was assigned to the 2nd Airborne Command and Control Squadron, Offutt AFB, Nebraska as an EC 135 pilot, flying the Strategic Air Command's airborne command post named "Looking Glass." 1991 to 1992 he served as an aircraft commander and instructor pilot in the 920th Air Refueling Squadron, Wurtsmith AFB, Michigan. From 1992 to 1995 he was assigned as an instructor pilot and tactics officer in the 380 Air Refueling Wing, Plattsburgh AFBA, New York. Anderson logged over 3,000 hours in various models of the KC-135 and the T-38A aircrafts.

NASA Experience: Selected by NASA in December 1994, Anderson reported to the Johnson Space Center in March 1995. He completed a year of training and evaluation and was qualified for flight crew assignment as a mission specialist. Prior to the Columbia flight, he had logged over 211 hours in space. Anderson served aboard the STS-89 Shuttle Endeavor mission, January 22-31, 1998, the eighth shuttle-Mir docking. During this mission, the crew transferred more than 9,000 pounds of scientific equipment, logistical hardware and water. This mission traveled 3.6 million miles in 138 orbits of the earth.

About the logo:

The symbol for the Michael P. Anderson Memorial Statue Fund reflects the character of a man with great aspirations and a man who made the ultimate sacrifice for all mankind. The large star, propelled by a jet stream, represents Lt. Col. Anderson's fulfillment of a lifelong dream to fly in space. As a man who became a role model for not only his two daughters, but to all children, it's appropriate that his star be but one of seven. While serving as a reminder of the heavens above, the six other stars honor Lt. Col. Anderson's fellow crew members on board the shuttle Columbia that fateful day.

On February 1st, 2003, President Bush addressed our nation and made these comments. "Yet farther than we can see, there is comfort and hope. In the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'lift your eyes and look to the heavens. Who created all these? He who brings out the starry hosts one by one and calls them each by name.' Because of His great power, and mighty strength, not one of them is missing." The Michael P. Anderson Memorial Statue Fund symbol gives hope, for all mankind, to follow their own dreams.