



RUSSEL E. RHODES, NASA ENGINEER (ret) with 52 years service! March 24, 2015.

Russ a native of Tippecanoe, Indiana graduated from Tippecanoe High School in 1954 and is a 1958 graduate of Indiana Tech, Fort Wayne, IN with a BS Degree in Aeronautical Engineering.

In 1958 the country was going through large aerospace layoffs and following graduation Russ was drafted into the army and following basic training was assigned to the Missile Firing Laboratory of ABMA, Huntsville, Alabama and detached to Cape Canaveral, Florida where he lived at Patrick Air Force Base, 1959-1961. The activities of the Missile

Firing Laboratory of ABMA were mostly conducted at Cape Canaveral, FL. Russ was engaged in the design, development, flight testing and operation of ballistic missile (Rockets). During this period, ABMA's Missile Firing Lab was transferred to NASA where Russ continued to work.

After a short time with Fairchild Aircraft in Hagerstown, MD, where he met his future wife, he returned to FL and NASA, where he became engaged in the design, development, testing and operation of the Saturn class space transportation systems.

He has served as a systems engineer and in engineering management roles with the Pershing, Redstone, Jupiter, Saturn 1/1B, Saturn V/Apollo, Skylab, Shuttle, Constellation, and the start of the SLS program.

He is a charter member of the Space Propulsion Synergy Team and its Steering Committee focusing on strategic aspects of future advanced space transportation system's technology for developing Affordable Access to Space. Rhodes has led many technical studies and co-authored many technical papers (on advanced Space Propulsion and Space Transportation Systems) focused on lowering the cost of Space Transportation Systems.

Russ lives in Indian Harbour Beach, has six children, fifteen grandchildren and is a member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Melbourne.