

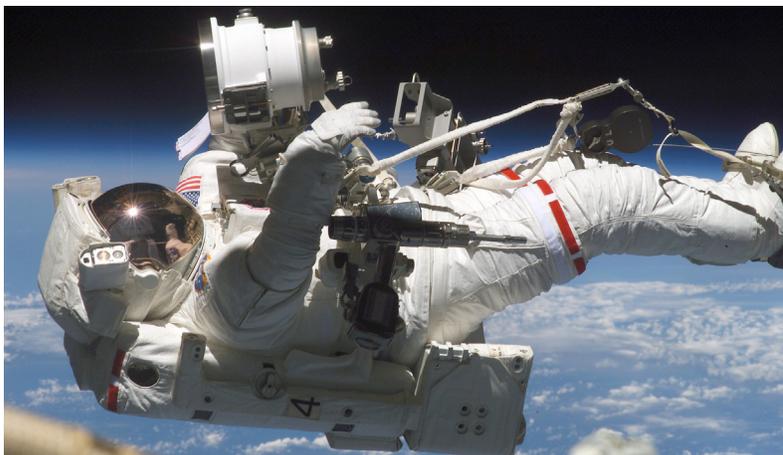


## NAVY MEDICAL CORPS LEGENDS PHYSICIAN-ASTRONAUTS



For over 60 years, Navy physicians have played vital roles for NASA serving as key advisors, scientists, medical monitors, and—beginning in 1965—astronauts. **A total of 8 Navy physicians have served as astronauts.**

In June 1965, Capt. Joseph Kerwin became the first Navy physician chosen for NASA’s nascent scientist-astronaut program. And when Skylab launched in May 1973, **Capt. Kerwin earned the distinction as the first American physician in space.**



From May 1973 to March 2025, Navy physicians astronauts have **logged more than 218 days and 70 minutes in space.**

On April 8, 2025, **Lt. Cmdr. Jonny Kim** boarded the International Space Station (ISS) becoming the eighth Navy physician to serve in space.





# NAVY MEDICINE FAST FACTS



NAVY MEDICAL CORPS ASTRONAUTS



**CAPT. JOSEPH KERWIN of Oak Park, Ill.** When *Skylab* launched in May 1973, Kerwin earned the distinction as the **first American physician in space**. He and fellow crewmembers spent a total of 672 hours and 49 minutes aboard the Skylab station including 3 hours and 58 minutes conducting extra-vehicular activities (EVA) to repair the damage the station suffered in orbit.



**CAPT. MANLEY SONNY "MANNY" CARTER, JR. of Brunswick, Ga.** Carter was selected by NASA in June 1985 after a career as a **flight surgeon-pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours and 160 carrier landings**. He served aboard STS-33 (*Discovery*) in 1989 where he logged 120 hours in space. In April 1991, Carter was killed in a commercial airline crash when flying to a speaking engagement.



**CAPT. CHARLES BRADY, JR. of Pinehurst, N.C.** Brady was flight surgeon who served with the Blue Angels demonstration squad. Selected by NASA in March 1992, Brady later **served aboard STS-78 (Columbia) in 1996**, then the longest space shuttle mission and the first to combine "full microgravity studies and a comprehensive life sciences investigation." He returned to Navy in 2000, serving as a flight surgeon at the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station.



**CAPT. JERRY LINENGER of Eastpointe, Mich.** Linenger was a Naval Academy graduate (Class of 1977). Selected by NASA in Aug. 1992, Linenger later took part in **STS-64 (Discovery) in September 1994**. In 1997, Linenger flew aboard **STS-81 (Atlantis)** on a mission to the Russian Space Station Mir. He spent 132 days, four hours and one minute in the space station setting (what was then) the record for the longest duration by an American in Space.



**CAPT. LAUREL BLAIR SALTON CLARK of Racine, Wisc.** Clark was a Navy **undersea medical officer and flight surgeon** selected by NASA in April 1996. From 1997 to 2000, Clark served in NASA's Astronaut Office Payloads / Habitability Branch. Clark was a **member of STS-107 (Columbia)** mission logging 15 days, 22 hours and 21 minutes in space. She was one of two Navy physicians killed on Feb. 1, 2003, when the Columbia disintegrated 16 minutes prior to entry.



**CAPT. DAVID M. BROWN of Arlington, Va.** Brown was a **flight surgeon and pilot** selected by NASA in 1996. He was the **first pilot** to qualify to fly the NASA T-38 aircraft. Brown was a member of **STS-107 (Columbia)** mission logging 15 days, 22 hours and 21 minutes in space. He was one of two Navy physicians killed on Feb. 1, 2003, when the Columbia disintegrated 16 minutes prior to entry.



**CAPT. LEE M. MORIN of Manchester, N.H.** Morin was a Navy **undersea medical officer and flight surgeon** selected by NASA in April 1996. He served aboard **STS-110 (Atlantis)** in 2002, which was the first mission to use the robotic arm on spacewalks. On this mission, Morin logged in more than 14 hours and 9 minutes on two spacewalks.



**LT. CMDR. JONNY KIM of Los Angeles, Calif.** In Jan. 2020, Kim made history as part of the first NASA class to graduate under the Artemis program. The programs goals include establishing a long-term presence on the moon and prepare for future missions to Mars. Kim is a former SEAL-combat medic turned Navy physician and naval aviator. He launched aboard **Roscosmos Soyuz MS-27 spacecraft in April 2025** to the International Space Station (ISS).

