

Schmitt, Harrison Encyclopedia Article

Schmitt, Harrison

The following sections of this BookRags Literature Study Guide is offprint from Gale's For Students Series: Presenting Analysis, Context, and Criticism on Commonly Studied Works: Introduction, Author Biography, Plot Summary, Characters, Themes, Style, Historical Context, Critical Overview, Criticism and Critical Essays, Media Adaptations, Topics for Further Study, Compare & Contrast, What Do I Read Next?, For Further Study, and Sources.

(c)1998-2002; (c)2002 by Gale. Gale is an imprint of The Gale Group, Inc., a division of Thomson Learning, Inc. Gale and Design and Thomson Learning are trademarks used herein under license.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Encyclopedia of Popular Fiction: "Social Concerns", "Thematic Overview", "Techniques", "Literary Precedents", "Key Questions", "Related Titles", "Adaptations", "Related Web Sites". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Guide to Literature for Young Adults: "About the Author", "Overview", "Setting", "Literary Qualities", "Social Sensitivity", "Topics for Discussion", "Ideas for Reports and Papers". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

All other sections in this Literature Study Guide are owned and copyrighted by BookRags, Inc.

Contents

Schmitt, Harrison Encyclopedia Article.....	1
Contents.....	2
Schmitt, Harrison.....	3

Schmitt, Harrison

Astronaut Harrison Schmitt was photographed in December, 1971, in front of the lunar globe he helped develop.

American Astronaut and Senator 1935-

Born in Santa Rita, New Mexico, on July 3, 1935, Harrison H. "Jack" Schmitt received a bachelor of science degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1957 and a doctorate in geology from Harvard University in 1964.

In June 1965, when the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) selected Schmitt for its first group of scientist-astronauts, he was involved in mapping the Moon with the U.S. Geological Survey's Astrogeology Center at Flagstaff, Arizona. Schmitt provided Apollo flight crews with detailed instructions in lunar navigation, geology, and feature recognition while training for his Moon mission. Additionally, he helped achieve the inclusion of scientific activities into Apollo missions and helped analyze the lunar soil samples returned by the astronauts.

On December 10, 1972, Apollo 17 Mission Commander Eugene Cernan and Schmitt landed the moonship Challenger in a mountain-ringed valley named Taurus-Littrow. "It's a good geologist's paradise if I've ever seen one!" Schmitt said as he followed Cernan to the surface.

Schmitt resigned from NASA in 1975 to run for the U.S. Senate in New Mexico. In the last two years of his term he was chairman of the Subcommittee on Science, Technology and Space. He teaches at the University of Wisconsin and is a business and technical consultant.

See Also

Apollo (Volume 3);; Apollo Lunar Landing Sites (Volume 3);; History of Humans in Space (Volume 3);; Lunar Rovers (Volume 3);

Bibliography

Ellis, Lee A. *Who's Who of NASA Astronauts* New York: Americana Group Publishing, 2001.

Wilhelms, Don E. *To a Rocky Moon: A Geologist's History of Lunar Exploration*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1993.

World Spaceflight News, ed. *On the Moon with Apollo 17*. Mount Laurel, NJ: Progressive Management, 2001.

Internet Resources

"Harrison Schmitt." U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame. <http://www.astronauts.org/astro_nauts/schmitt.htm>.