

Valery V. Ryumin Encyclopedia Article

Valery V. Ryumin

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Valery V. Ryumin

1939-

Russian astronaut who served as flight director of the *Salyut-7* and *Mir* space stations from 1981-89. Ryumin spent a total of 362 days in space, primarily on two missions to the *Salyut-6* space station—175 days in 1977 and 185 days in 1980. In 1998 Ryumin was selected by NASA as a crew member of STS-91, the final Shuttle-*Mir* docking mission and the last phase of the U.S.-Russian joint space program, to be supplanted by the construction of the International Space Station.