

George Mueller 1918 – 2015



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Dr. George Mueller, who led the Apollo Program, which landed humans on the Moon, passed away on 12 October, aged 97. Mueller was the longest serving member of the World Space Week Association Board of Directors.

Mueller, born in 1918, became NASA's Associate Administrator of Manned Space Flight in September 1963 and continued in the post until December 1969. Hailed as one of NASA's "most brilliant and fearless managers," he was instrumental in implementing the *all-up* testing philosophy for the Saturn V launch vehicle, which contributed to the success of the Apollo program.

The first Moon landing, by Neal Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin, occurred under Dr. Mueller's leadership in July 1969. Mueller also played a key role in the design of Skylab, and championed the development of the Space Shuttle, which earned him the nickname, "Father of the Space Shuttle."

"I am deeply saddened by the loss of my old friend George Mueller," said Buzz Aldrin, a fellow member of the WSW Association Board and Chancellor of International Space University.

"The world will forever be in debt to George for the pivotal role he played in getting America to the Moon and pioneering the entrepreneurial revolution in space," Aldrin said.

"Dr. Mueller was a true hero of space exploration," said Dennis Stone, President of World Space Week Association. "His support for World Space Week was an inspiration for us all. He will be deeply missed," Stone said.

Elected to the Board in 1992, Mueller served for over 22 years, making him the longest-serving Director in the Association's history.

About World Space Week Association

World Space Week Association globally coordinates World Space Week, declared by the United Nations as October 4-10 annually. World Space Week is the largest space event on Earth, celebrated with 1,500 activities in 70 nations to inspire students and educate the public about space. For more information, see www.worldspaceweek.org.