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UA94/6/2/5 Terry Wilcutt Papers

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Western Kentucky University
UA94/6/2 WKU Student / Alumni Papers
Series 5 Terry Wilcutt

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Biographical/Historical Note: The first Kentucky native among NASA's 214 astronauts, Lt. Colonel Terry Wilcutt piloted the October, 1994 Space Shuttle Endeavor mission. The Russellville, Kentucky native graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and taught high school math for two years in Louisville. Wilcutt then joined the U.S. Marine Corps and earned his wings in 1978 as he rose to the ranks of lieutenant Colonel. He attended the Naval Fighter Weapons School (Top Gun). He made two overseas deployments, served as an F/A-18 Fighter Weapons and Air Combat Maneuvering Instructor and attended the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, earning the title of "Distinguished Graduate." Wilcutt was selected by NASA in January 1990 and became an astronaut in July, 1991. His technical assignments including working on Space Shuttle Main Engine and External Tank Issues, serving on the astronaut support personnel team at the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, supporting Space Shuttle launches and landings and technical issues for the astronaut Office Operations Development Branch.

Wilcutt piloted the STS-88 (Endeavor) launched from the Kennedy Space Center on September 30, 1994 as part of NASA's Mission to Planet Earth. The mission used the second of three advanced radars and a carbon-monoxide pollution sensor to study the Earth's surface and atmosphere. After 183 orbits of Earth in which more than 14,000 photographs were taken, the 11-day mission ended with the Endeavor touching down at Edwards Air Force Base, California October 11, 1994. Wilcutt logged 269 hours and 46 minutes in space and is scheduled for a return trip to space next spring. Wilcutt's parents remain residents of Russellville and he is married to the former Robin Jo Moyers of Louisville and they have two sons, Andrew Brian, age 11 and Aaron Michael, 6. (WKU Alumni Hall of Fame)

Description: Records created by and about Terry Wilcutt and manned space flights.

Dates: 1994-2000

Subject Analytics:

Astronauts

Class of 1974 (WKU)
Correspondence
Space Flight
Western Kentucky University

Accession Information: These records were transferred to the University Archives upon its creation.

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