



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Friday, November 3, 2023

**Apollo & Space Shuttle Astronaut, Test Pilot, Rear Adm. (USN, Ret.) & Aeronautical Engineer Dies at 87**

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF) is saddened to share the passing of one of our great "Space Pioneers," Thomas K. Mattingly. "TK" Mattingly passed away on October 31, 2023, at the age of 87 and leaves behind his son, Thomas K. Mattingly III.

Mattingly began his NASA space flight career by losing his spot on the crew of the ill-fated Apollo 13, due to exposure to German measles (which never developed) and continued by Mattingly playing a pivotal role at a heroic level as he worked tirelessly on the ground using innovation and out of the box creativity to ensure the astronauts arrived safely back home.

He flew to the moon on Apollo 16 as the command module pilot, and orbited the Moon while crewmates Charlie Duke and John Young performed a lunar landing; Mattingly then conducted a successful deep-space EVA (spacewalk). He is one of two astronauts (he and John Young) to have flown to the moon and to have flown a space shuttle mission; he did the latter twice, on STS-4 and STS-51C.

Mattingly was a true innovator, gentleman, and American hero. We wish him farewell as he now is able to "play among the stars." Godspeed, sir.

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