

Why are we here today?

Glynn S. Lunney
Class of 1955, NACA

Some opening thoughts

- **Approaches considered**
- **Approach selected**

Approach

- Meet the “founding fathers” of this enterprise
- Envision this as your heritage, your inheritance
- Explore some lessons



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Lessons

- ❑ **Absence of a “founding father” photo**
- ❑ **Others make things...**
- ❑ **Speaking of history...**
- ❑ **Leadership**
- ❑ **What should your expectations be?**
- ❑ **And, for your career...**
- ❑ **Finally, what do you have that is yours alone?**

Your Founding Fathers

□ **Dr. Robert R. Gilruth**

- Born 10/8/13 in Nashwauk, MN; died 8/17/00 in Houston, TX
- BS ('35) and MS ('36), AE, University of Minnesota
- NACA Langley('36-'58), NASA JSC ('58-'73)
- Led the Space Task Group (STG) of 35 to Houston; first Center Director ('62-'72)

□ **Dr. George M. Low**

- Born 6/10/26 near Vienna, Austria; emigrated to the US in 1940; died 7/17/84 in Troy, NY
- BS ('48) and MS ('50), AE, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- NACA Glenn ('49-'58), NASA JSC and HQ ('58-'76)
- Apollo Spacecraft Program Manager, Deputy Center Director, NASA Deputy Administrator, President of RPI

Your Founding Fathers

□ Maxime (Max) A. Faget

- Born 8/26/21 in Stann Creek, British Honduras; died 10/10/04 in Houston, TX
- BS ('43), ME, Louisiana State University
- NACA Langley('46-'58), NASA JSC('58-'81)
- Submarine officer in WWII; legendary spacecraft designer; first director of engineering at JSC; founder of Space Industries, Inc.

□ Walter C. Williams

- Born 7/30/19 in New Orleans, LA; died 10/7/95 in Tarzana, CA
- BS ('39), AE, Louisiana State University
- NACA Langley & Dryden('40-'58); NASA JSC & HQ ('58-'64)
- Led flight research at Dryden including Chuck Yeager's flight; first flight operations director for JSC; VP with Aerospace Corp.

Your Founding Fathers

□ Christopher Columbus Kraft, Jr.

- Born 2/28/24 in Phoebus, VA; now lives in Houston, TX
- BS ('44), AE, Virginia Polytechnic University (now Virginia Tech)
- NACA Langley ('45-'58), NASA JSC ('58-'82)
- Architect of space flight operations, early flight director during Mercury and Gemini programs, director of flight operations during the Apollo program, and center director ('72-'82); later in his career a consultant and board member of various companies including Rockwell International and IBM