

Guion S. Bluford



Guion S. Bluford was born in Pennsylvania in 1942. As a child, he was a boy scout. As a young man, he joined the air force. Later, he graduated from Penn State with a degree in aerospace engineering. Following that, he became a NASA astronaut in 1979.

He was the first African American to travel into space on the Challenger in 1983.



After the journey, Bluford said, "I felt an awesome responsibility, and I took the responsibility very seriously, of being a role model and opening another door to black Americans, but the important thing is not that I am black, but that I did a good job as a scientist and an astronaut..."

What do you think he means by this? Post your thoughts in the THINK SPACE by this center.