



Jeff Bispham

Engineering multi-skill senior manager • Vehicle Support, Boeing Spacecraft Services • Kennedy Space Center, Fla.

SERVICE: U.S. AIR FORCE, 1977 TO 1985 • AIR FORCE RESERVE, 1985 TO 2003

I joined the U.S. Air Force in 1977, mostly because I had a love of aircraft and a strong interest in military fighters. I thought I was going in for four years but the Air Force mission really caught me and I had to be a part of it. I served more than 25 years—eight years on active duty and the remainder in the reserves.

My entire military career was in avionics. I was in the reserves and part of a search and rescue unit at Patrick Air Force Base in Florida when the war broke

out in Iraq. I went to Kuwait in 2003 and spent four months in Iraq after the fall of Baghdad. In the war zone, I was responsible for repair and maintenance of the guidance and control systems on Black Hawk helicopters. It was a critical job to make sure the aircraft could perform its rescue mission.

I've been with Boeing 24 years—19 of them here at the Kennedy Space Center. I work with the team that provides ground support of spaceflight hardware.

We perform precision alignments, fluid servicing, hoisting and handling of payloads that will be carried by the shuttle into space, and we deliver those payloads to the launch pad. It's exciting to be a part of the space business and discovering what's out there. I get a thrill from that.

My motto is to live life to the fullest. Set challenging goals and pursue them with passion and bulldog determination. It's the way you ought to do things.

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