



## Flight: My Life in Mission Control

By Christopher Kraft

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*The Right Stuff* meets *Rocket Boys* in this gripping memoir by the man who helped create some of the greatest moments in U.S. space history.

NASA flight director Chris Kraft takes readers behind the scenes of the U.S. space program to deliver an unforgettable account of his life in Mission Control. One of our early space pioneers, Kraft emerged from a boyhood in small-town America to become a visionary whose energy and commitment would lead to the creation of our nation's most daring space programs. It's all here, from the legendary Mercury missions that first sent Americans into space through the Gemini and Apollo missions that landed them on the moon. The great heroes of space are here, too-Alan Shepard, John Glenn, Neil Armstrong, Jim Lovell, and Buzz Aldrin-leading the space race that would change the course of U.S history.

From its infancy to its glory days, from near-disasters to astonishing triumphs . . . from the stunning gambles to the pure luck that accompanied each mission, *Flight* relives the spellbinding moments and events that captured the imagination of the world. It is a stirring tribute to the U.S. space program and to the men who risked their lives to take America on a flight into the unknown-from the man who was there for it all.

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## Editorial Review

### Amazon.com Review

On July 20, 1969, near the end of a great decade of near-space exploration, a small craft called *Eagle* landed on the moon's surface. As anyone who watched the televised broadcast of the landing might recall, the astronauts aboard *Eagle* were guided to their objective by a capable ground crew headed by Chris Kraft, whom his colleagues had long called "Flight." Kraft was unflappable on the surface, but, as he writes in this memoir, the *Eagle's* landing had moments of drama that gave him pause, and that few outside NASA knew about--including baleful alarms from the ship's on-board computer that warned of imminent disaster.

For Kraft, frightening moments were part of his job as director of Mission Control. He encountered many of them in the early years of the space program, when failures were commonplace and all too often caused not by mechanics but by politics. We learn of many in Kraft's pages. One such failure was the Soviet Union's *Sputnik* launch, about which Kraft thunders, "We should have beaten them.... We were stopped by anonymous doctors in the civilian world who didn't know what they were talking about, by a bureaucrat in the White House who'd been stung when JFK shot down his position on manned space flight, and by our friend the German rocket scientist, who got cold feet when he should have been bold."

Plenty of other contemporaries, including John Glenn and Richard Nixon, come in for a scolding in Kraft's fiery account, which offers a rare insider's portrait of the challenging work of astronautics--work that, Kraft writes hopefully, is only beginning. --*Gregory McNamee*

### From [Booklist](#)

Besides the astronauts, Kraft was one of NASA's best-known personalities in the agency's heroic decade of the 1960s, once making the cover of *Time*. The blunt-speaking demeanor that made Kraft popular with the press is fully present in his memoir, in which he lets fly about various instances of his dissatisfaction with the performance of an astronaut, engineer, or contractor. Such dirty-laundry airing, verboten at the time by the publicity-conscious NASA, is one reason for space-history buffs to flock to Kraft's narrative, but the principal attraction is how he ramped up from scratch the flight control operation for Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo. When *Sputnik* beeped the U.S. into a panic, Kraft was an engineer at the obscure National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), quickly revamped as NASA. Tapped by the unsung organizer of manned flight, Robert Gilruth, to establish what became Mission Control, Kraft directed the early flights, whose participants he critiques by his lights as a no-nonsense engineer. His key role and frankness of recollection make Kraft a worthy memoirist of pioneering space flight. *Gilbert Taylor*  
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### Review

...[a] highly readable memoir... -- *New York Times Book Review*

a tale of technological triumph and good-old Yankee ingenuity and teamwork. -- *Orlando Sentinel*

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#### Tiara Garcia:

Information is provisions for individuals to get better life, information today can get by anyone in

everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even a huge concern. What people must be consider while those information which is from the former life are challenging to be find than now could be taking seriously which one is appropriate to believe or which one the actual resource are convinced. If you obtain the unstable resource then you obtain it as your main information you will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen inside you if you take Flight: My Life in Mission Control as the daily resource information.

**Kate Sutton:**

Hey guys, do you wishes to finds a new book to read? May be the book with the title Flight: My Life in Mission Control suitable to you? The actual book was written by well known writer in this era. The book untitled Flight: My Life in Mission Control is one of several books which everyone read now. This specific book was inspired a lot of people in the world. When you read this e-book you will enter the new shape that you ever know previous to. The author explained their thought in the simple way, therefore all of people can easily to know the core of this e-book. This book will give you a large amount of information about this world now. To help you see the represented of the world in this book.

**Edward Kirklin:**

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