

Alan Shepard

Quotes

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Obviously I was challenged by becoming a Naval aviator, by landing aboard aircraft carriers and so on.

~Alan Shepard

It's a very sobering feeling to be up in space and realize that one's safety factor was determined by the lowest bidder on a government contract.

~Alan Shepard

When I first looked back at the Earth, standing on the Moon I cried

~Alan Shepard

The fact that every part of this ship was built by the low bidder.

~Alan Shepard

Why don't you light that candle ?

~Alan Shepard

You may not have any extra talent, but maybe you are just paying more attention to what you are doing.

~Alan Shepard

I just wanted to be the first one to fly for America, not because I'd end up in the pages of history books.

~Alan Shepard

I didn't mind studying. Obviously math and the physical science subjects interested me more than some of the more artistic subjects, but I think I was a pretty good student.

~Alan Shepard

Got more dirt than ball. Here we go again.

~Alan Shepard

We're going to see passengers in space stations in 15 years, who will be able to buy a ticket and spend a weekend in space.

~Alan Shepard

Why don't you fix your little problem and light this candle?

~Alan Shepard

I must admit, maybe I am a piece of history after all.

~Alan Shepard

I'd like to say I was smart enough to finish six grades in five years, but I think perhaps the teacher was just glad to get rid of me.

~Alan Shepard

There's no question that all the generations got excited about the first flights, with Kennedy's inspiration to go to the moon, leaving the planet for the first time, and fortunately coming back.

~Alan Shepard

I think the sense of family and family achievement, plus the discipline which I received there from that one-room school were really very helpful in what I did later on.

~Alan Shepard

Roger, liftoff, and the clock is started.

~Alan Shepard

The first plane ride was in a homemade glider my buddy and I built. Unfortunately we didn't get more than four feet off the ground, because it crashed.

~Alan Shepard

Of course I was delighted the flight was over, but I still had to worry about cleaning up inside the cabin, I had to worry about the hatch, how

to get in the sling, and so on.

~Alan Shepard

Of course, in our grade school, in those days, there were no organized sports at all. We just went out and ran around the school yard for recess.

~Alan Shepard

The excitement really didn't start to build until the trailer - which was carrying me, with a space suit with ventilation and all that sort of stuff - pulled up to the launch pad.

~Alan Shepard

Later, in the early teens, I used to ride my bike every Saturday morning to the nearest airport, ten miles away, push airplanes in and out of the hangars, and clean up the hangars.

~Alan Shepard

I know you're all saying I can go to the moon but I can't find Pasadena.

~Alan Shepard

We also knew it would be difficult, because of the financial condition of the family, for me to go to college.

~Alan Shepard

Miles and miles and miles.

~Alan Shepard

I think all of us certainly believed the statistics which said that probably 88% chance of mission success and maybe 96% chance of survival. And we were willing to take those odds.

~Alan Shepard

You know, being a test pilot isn't always the healthiest business in the

world.

~Alan Shepard

But when I was selected, after my very first tour of squadron duty, to become one of the youngest candidates for the test pilot school, I began to realize, maybe you are a little bit better.

~Alan Shepard

I think about the personal accomplishment, but there's more of a sense of the grand achievement by all the people who could put this man on the moon.

~Alan Shepard

AI is on the surface. And it's been a long way, but we're here.

~Alan Shepard

I can hit it farther on the moon. But actually, my swing is better here on Earth.

~Alan Shepard

Because of the suit I was wearing, I couldn't make a good pivot on the swing. And I had to hit the ball with one hand.

~Alan Shepard

The same way people are now paying a couple thousand dollars to fly to other parts of the world, people will be paying \$50,000 to spend a weekend on a space station.

~Alan Shepard

We need a continuing presence in space.

~Alan Shepard

I think first of all you have to be there for the right reason.

~Alan Shepard

The suit was so clumsy, being pressurized, it was impossible to get two hands comfortably on the handle and it's impossible to make any kind of a turn. It was kind of a one-handed chili-dip.

~Alan Shepard

Unfortunately, the suit is so stiff, I can't do this with two hands, but I'm going to try a little sand-trap shot here.

~Alan Shepard

We had some adverse conditions in the '60s, in the '70s and the '80s. The agency has risen above that in the past and will rise above that again.

~Alan Shepard

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