# The Last Man On The Moon: Astronaut Eugene Cernan And America S Race In Space

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The Last Man On The Moon: A Journey Through Space and Time



The Last Man on the Moon: Astronaut Eugene Cernan and America's Race in Space by Eugene Cernan

🚖 🚖 🚖 🔺 4.8 c	out of 5
Language	: English
File size	: 1347 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 478 pages



Eugene "Gene" Cernan was the last man to walk on the moon. He left his footprints on the lunar surface on December 11, 1972, during the Apollo 17 mission. His iconic words, "We leave as we came and, God willing, as we shall return with peace and hope for all mankind," echoed through the void as he ascended the ladder of the lunar module and back into space.

Cernan's journey to the moon was a culmination of a lifetime of dedication and hard work. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, on March 14, 1934. After graduating from Purdue University with a degree in electrical engineering, he joined the Navy. He later became a test pilot and was selected as an astronaut in 1963.

Cernan made his first spaceflight in 1966, as a crew member of the Gemini 9 mission. On this mission, he and his fellow astronaut Thomas Stafford performed a three-hour spacewalk. During the spacewalk, Cernan became the first astronaut to use a jetpack to move around in space.

In 1969, Cernan made his second spaceflight, as a crew member of the Apollo 10 mission. On this mission, he and his fellow astronauts John Young and Thomas Stafford flew within 8 miles of the moon's surface. Cernan was scheduled to be the first man to walk on the moon during the Apollo 10 mission, but a technical problem prevented the lunar module from landing.

Finally, in 1972, Cernan made his third and final spaceflight, as the commander of the Apollo 17 mission. On this mission, he and his fellow astronauts Harrison Schmitt and Ronald Evans landed on the moon in the Taurus-Littrow Valley.

During the Apollo 17 mission, Cernan and Schmitt spent three days exploring the lunar surface. They conducted a variety of scientific experiments and collected samples of lunar rocks and soil. They also set up a series of scientific instruments that would continue to transmit data back to Earth for years to come.

On December 11, 1972, Cernan made his iconic "last man on the moon" speech. He then climbed back into the lunar module and returned to space. As he left the moon, he snapped a photograph of the Earth rising over the

lunar horizon. This photograph, known as "The Blue Marble," has become one of the most iconic images in human history.

Cernan retired from NASA in 1976. He went on to have a successful career in business and public service. He died on January 16, 2017, at the age of 82.

Cernan's legacy is one of exploration and discovery. He was a pioneer who helped to push the boundaries of human knowledge and understanding. His words and actions continue to inspire generations of people to reach for the stars.

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#### Eugene Cernan's Spacesuit

Cernan's spacesuit was a highly sophisticated piece of equipment that was essential to his survival on the moon. The suit was made of a lightweight, yet durable material that protected Cernan from the extreme temperatures and radiation of space.

The suit was also equipped with a variety of life-support systems that provided Cernan with oxygen, water, and food. The suit also had a communications system that allowed Cernan to stay in contact with his fellow astronauts and with Mission Control on Earth.

Cernan's spacesuit was a marvel of engineering and was a key factor in his successful moon landing. The suit is now on display at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

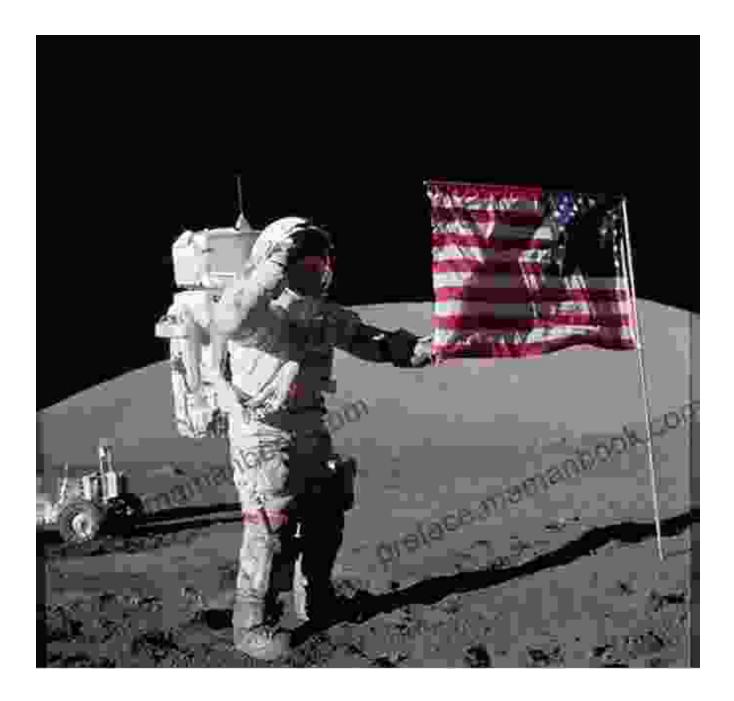
#### The Last Man on the Moon: A Legacy of Exploration

Cernan's journey to the moon was a historic achievement. He was the last man to walk on the moon, and his footprints are still there today. His words and actions continue to inspire generations of people to reach for the stars.

Cernan's legacy is one of exploration and discovery. He was a pioneer who helped to push the boundaries of human knowledge and understanding. His journey to the moon was a major step forward for mankind, and it will continue to be remembered for generations to come.

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The Last Man On The Moon



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#### The Last Man On The Moon: Eugene Cernan

Eugene Cernan, the last man to walk on the moon, was born in Chicago, Illinois, on March 14, 1934. He graduated from Purdue University with a

degree in electrical engineering and joined the Navy. He became a test pilot and was selected as an astronaut in 1963.

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