

ASTRONAUT BIOGRAPHY



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
Houston, Texas 77058

April 2021



Bob Hines

(Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force) NASA Astronaut

Summary:

Bob Hines was selected by NASA to join the 2017 Astronaut Candidate Class. He reported for duty in August 2017 and having completed the initial astronaut candidate training is now eligible for a mission assignment. He has served more than 20 years in the United State Air Force (USAF) as an instructor pilot, fighter pilot, and a test pilot. Before his selection in 2017, he was serving as a research pilot at NASA's Johnson Space Center. He has accumulated more than 3,500 hours of flight time in 50 different types of aircraft and has flown 76 combat missions in 3 different aircraft types while supporting contingency operations around the world. He is currently in training for NASA SpaceX Crew-4 mission to the ISS, scheduled to launch in 2022.

Personal Data:

Born January 11, 1975, in Fayetteville, North Carolina, he grew up in Mountaintop, Pennsylvania, but considers Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to be his hometown. His wife, Kelli, is from Caledonia, Mississippi. The couple has three children. Bob's father and step-mom, Robert, Sr., and Melody Hines reside in Ocean View, Delaware, while his mother and step-father, Lynne and Tom Swider, still reside in Harrisburg.

Education:

Graduated from Crestwood High School in Mountaintop, Pennsylvania, in 1993. Earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from Boston University, 1997. Earned a Master of Science degree in Flight Test Engineering, U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School, 2008. Earned a Master of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Alabama, 2010.

Experience:

Hines received his commission in the United States Air force after graduating from Officer Training School in 1999. He completed Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training at Columbus Air Force Base in Mississippi. Upon completion of pilot training, he remained at Columbus as a T-37 instructor pilot. Bob's next assignment was as a fighter pilot in the "mighty" F-15E Strike Eagle. Following initial F-15E training at Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina, Hines and his family moved to Royal Air Force Lakenheath, in the United Kingdom. There, he participated in multiple deployments in support of operations in the Middle East, Africa, and throughout Europe. Following that assignment, he was chosen to attend the USAF Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base in California as part of Class 07B. Hines' follow-on test assignment was to Eglin Air Force Base, where he served as an F-15C/D/E Experimental Test Pilot. While at Eglin, he was selected fly the U-28 on an overseas deployment in support of Special Operations Forces. Hines went on to serve two assignments with the Air Force Reserves, first with the 147th Fighter Wing at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, Fort Worth, TX as the Wing Plans Officer. He was then selected to be the first F-15 Developmental Test Program Director for the F-15 with the 84th Test and Evaluation Squadron at Eglin AFB, FL where he continued to perform flight test on all models of the F-15.

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Hines also served as a Flight Test Pilot for the Federal Aviation Administration before moving to NASA's Johnson Space Center (JSC) in 2012. At the time of his selection in June 2017, Hines was a Research Pilot for the Aircraft Operations Division of the Flight Operations Directorate at JSC.

NASA Experience:

Hines reported for duty in August 2017 and completed two years of training as an Astronaut Candidate. He is currently in training for NASA SpaceX Crew-4 mission to the International Space Station, scheduled to launch in 2022. He is also in training as backup for NASA SpaceX Crew-3 mission to the ISS.

Awards/Honors:

NASA Stuart Present Flight Achievement Award, U.S. Air Force Bobby Bond Memorial Aviator Award, Meritorious Service Medal (2), Air Medal (2), Aerial Achievement Medal (2), Meritorious Unit Award, Outstanding Unit Award (12), Combat Readiness Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal Iraq Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal and various other service awards.

Organizations:

Member of Society of Experimental Test Pilots and Member of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.