

In Memory of Virginia Whitehead
from Her Friends at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

"Virginia was one of those people, KSC or otherwise, that one will never forget. Without exception, she enthusiastically supported her payload customers, which included those representing everything from Hubble Space Telescope to Shuttle Small Payloads. She supported the Goddard FREESTAR payload team, which included the Israeli representatives of the MEIDEX experiment. She also 'went above and beyond' to ensure that one of the young students involved with the SEM-14 experiment on FREESTAR had the opportunity to see the payload in the PPF and tour KSC facilities. Through her dedication to customers and students, Virginia has indeed served to 'inspire the next generation of explorers.' " - Mike Wright

"My heart is heavy. I remember Virginia." - Rick Kinder

"She was one of those people you can't forget :)" - Joanne Baker

"What a lady, what a life!" - Charlie Knapp

"Virginia was an amazing integration engineer. I have very fond memories of her support, persistence, determination, and willingness to do whatever it took to solve an issue. Her service to our space program was boundless. Her spirit no doubt will continue to inspire." - Ruthan Lewis

"She also won this award in 2003..which I pulled from a KSC news letter: 'You Make A Difference Award: This award recognizes employees who have set examples of high energy and who are team players. These individuals reach out beyond their immediate organization for the good of the Kennedy Space Center and the community.' How appropriate. She was 87. Wow! What an amazing women. I only worked with her a few times/missions, but each time she was a gem!" - Gerry Daelemans