James A. Lovell, Jr Encyclopedia Article

James A. Lovell, Jr

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James A. Lovell, Jr

1928-

American astronaut who was the first individual to complete four space missions. Lovell graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and the Naval Test Pilot School. He piloted *Gemini 7* for two weeks in 1965 and then commanded *Gemini 12.* On *Apollo 8* in 1968, Lovell orbited the moon in a pioneering spaceflight. Two years later, he survived the *Apollo 13* explosion. Lovell next served as the deputy director of science and applications at the Johnson Space Center. He published his autobiography, *Lost Moon,* in 1993.