Stuart Allen Roosa Encyclopedia Article

Stuart Allen Roosa

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Stuart Allen Roosa

1933-

American astronaut who orbited the Moon as command module pilot of *Apollo 14*. The successful flight of *Apollo 14,* in February 1971, restored public confidence in NASA after the aborted *Apollo 13* mission. After his return from the Moon, Roosa filled the vital-but-thankless role of backup command module pilot for the last two lunar landing missions, *Apollo 16* and *Apollo 17.* He also contributed to the early development of the space shuttle.