



## THOMAS H. GRAY BIO

**Thomas H. Gray** is a pioneering aerospace engineer whose contributions have left a lasting mark on the aviation industry, particularly through his work with Boeing. A graduate in Electrical Engineering from the University of New Mexico, Thomas began his career at Boeing, playing a key role in the flight testing of iconic aircraft, including the 707, 747, and 767. He made history as the first non-pilot to fly aboard the maiden 747 flight in 1969, a pivotal moment in the evolution of modern air travel.

Thomas's expertise extended beyond aviation; he also contributed to Boeing's Advanced Marine Systems and participated in the space shuttle Enterprise landing tests. His innovations in flight testing, particularly in the integration of digital and computer technology, helped enhance the safety and performance of aircraft worldwide.

Outside his professional accomplishments, Thomas is a passionate advocate for preserving aviation history. As a dedicated docent at the Museum of Flight, he has volunteered over 1,400 hours and has worked with the Tuskegee Airmen's Sam Bruce Chapter, helping correct historical inaccuracies and inspire future generations. His contributions to youth programs like the Michael P. Anderson Memorial Aerospace Program and the Red-Tailed Hawks Flying Club further demonstrate his commitment to fostering the next generation of aerospace leaders.

At 87 years old, Thomas continues to be a beacon of innovation and mentorship in the aerospace community. His life's work has not only advanced the field of aerospace engineering but also paved the way for more diverse representation within the industry.