

Questions

1. Why did you join the astronaut corps?
2. What effect did the Apollo 1 tragedy have on you (3 men died Jan. 27, 1967, in a fire during a training exercise.)
Did you re-think being an astronaut?
3. What was your reaction when you learned Apollo 11 was a lunar landing?
4. As the launch day grew closer, did you ever feel nervous because the whole world was watching you?
5. So much was riding on Apollo 11.
Describe the pressure you felt. How did you sleep the night before launch?
6. Landing on the moon must have been a challenge. Talk a bit about the fuel and finding a good place to land.
7. Describe what you were feeling as you stepped on the moon.

8. When did the words, "That's one small step ..." come to you?
9. How did you work as a successful team?
10. How have you been able to cope with the fame whilst trying to live a normal life?
11. Can you describe yourself in three words?

Answers

1. To investigate the problems of flight in the vacuum of space

2. No. All of us at that time came from the world of flight test and we were all aware of the risks. Disasters of that type just make you try harder.

3. We were involved in the process that decided that we would make a landing attempt. It was the remarkable progress on the previous flights that had given us that chance.

4. We had plenty to think about in just preparing for the flight. We didn't really

have time to read the newspapers or watch television.

5. We did not have high pressure from others. Of course, we put high pressure on ourselves to perform at our best. As far as I remember, I slept reasonably well on the night before launch

6. All the Apollo landings were performed manually. Pilots were unwilling to allow the computer guidance to make the landing and possibly stick a landing leg into a crater.

7. For me, the emotional feeling was to do with the landing. It was by far the most challenging and risky part of the flight. We had high confidence in the work on the lunar surface so that was less risky.

8. I thought about it in the lunar module after landing but before I climbed down on the ladder to the surface.

9. In a large project like Apollo, no one can know everything. As astronauts we have to trust the other members of the team. You develop that trust by constant communication and the joint solving of problems

10. I like to think I am a relatively normal person who had some extraordinary experiences.

11. Very lucky fellow.