

# UMBERTO GUIDONI



Born on 18 August 1954 in Rome, Italy, Guidoni is married, with one child. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics and a Doctorate in Astrophysics (Summa Cum Laude) from the University of Rome. He was awarded a post-doctoral fellowship in plasma physics at the Euratom Research Center in Frascati-Italy.

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## SPACEFLIGHT EXPERIENCE

He made his first spaceflight in 1996, aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia (STS-75) carrying the "Tether Satellite" (TSS-1R) and several microgravity experiments (USMP3).

Launched on February 22 and landed at the Kennedy Space Center (Florida) on March 9, Columbia completed 251 orbits, traveling over 10 million km in 377 hours and 40 minutes.

Second experience in space in 2001, with the Space Shuttle Endeavour (STS-100). During this flight he had the privilege of being the first European aboard the International Space Station (ISS). The mission included the docking in orbit with the ISS, the installation of the Canadian robotic arm Canadarm2 and the maiden flight of the Italian module Raffaello, the cargo system to deliver supplies for the Space Station.

Launched on April 19 and landed at the base Edwards (California) on May 1, Endeavour completed 186 orbits, traveling about 8 million km in 285 hours and 30 minutes.

## MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

From 2004 to 2009, Guidoni was elected at the European Parliament and was member of the Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) Committee, the Environment, Health and Food Safety (ENVI) Committee, the Financial Control (CONT) Committee and the Temporary Committee on Climate Change.

## CURRENT ACTIVITY

He has been presenter of the radio program entitled "From the Sputnik to the Shuttle" (the series "At 8 in the evening" by Radio RAI 2), in which he retraced the main events of the "Space Era". Later on, he presented another cycle of the same series where the epic history of the Apollo lunar missions was narrated. From this program, was published the book "From the Earth to the Moon" (2011).

Guidoni is involved in popularizing science and in organizing events related to space. He has published several articles and books including books for children such as "Martino su Marte", "Astrolibro dell'Universo" and "8 passi nel Futuro", "Viaggiando oltre il cielo", "Voglio la Luna" and his latest book "Guida per giovani astronauti", was printed in 2019 by ElectaKids (MONDADORI).

## AWARDS AND HONORS

1996 - He was appointed "Commander of the Republic" by the President Luigi Scalfaro and received the medal from NASA for orbital flight. With his name is called "the asteroid 10605-Guidoni" discovered by V. Giuliani and F. Manca.

2001 - With his second flight, he was appointed "Grand Officer of the Republic" by President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi and received a second NASA medal.

2002 - He was awarded the NASA for "Exceptional Service Medal" in recognition of his achievements in space.

2004 - Guidoni received the "Simpatia" Award from the Municipality of Rome.

2008 - He was awarded the "Silver Butterfly" by the DEBRA Association for his commitment in favor of children with epidermolysis bullosa.

2009 - Guidoni received the Lacchini Prize by the Italian Amateur Astronomers Union.

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