



Col. James Benson Irwin, USAF (1930 –1991)

July 26, 2021

Mr. Paul Crawford
Director/Curator
Penticton Art Galley
199 Marnia Way
Penticton, B.C.
V2A 1H5 Canada

This is to verify the orange flight suit held by Penticton Art Galley was worn by my late husband
Astronaut Col. James B. Irwin.

The flight suit has his name on a leather patch on the left side and the High Flight Foundation patch
below, on the right side it has his Apollo 15 patch. This flight suit was used by my husband when he
spoke at schools and on other speaking engagements. Enclosed are two pictures with him wearing the
flight suit as he flew the Quicksilver MX Ultralight aircraft.

Mary Irwin Vickers
Wife of the Late Astronaut Col. James B. Irwin

Mary Irwin - Vickers

Date:

July 26, 2021

Col. James Benson Irwin, USAF (1930 –1991)
Rare Apollo-era NASA mustard yellow test pilot flight suit, ca. late 1960s
Manufactured by Kings Point Manufacturing Co. of Fayetteville, NC.

This item comes with the following:

Signed certificate of authenticity from Mary Irwin

Signed certificate of authenticity from Legends in Time Memorabilia Inc., Langley, BC

An Apollo XV crew patch on the left side and a leather name patch reading “J.B. Irwin” affixed with Velcro over the left breast.

On the left side under the leather name patch is a rare staff patch from Jim Irwin's foundation the High Flight Foundation.

Mary Irwin also mentioned that the stain below the High Flight Foundation patch occurred when Jim wore the suit to paint the house after he have left NASA.

The Kings Point manufacturer’s tag is sewn into the collar area, with a small identification tag below, “James B. Irwin” with an additional High Flight Staff patch affixed below.

Provenance:

Ex: Collection of Mrs Mary Irwin, wife of Colonel James Irwin.
See letter of authenticity

Ex: Collection of Paul Brown, Langley, BC
acquired February 27, 1994 from Odyssey Auctions in Corona, California.

Sold by Legends in Time Memorabilia Inc., Langley, BC circa 2003 to Bruce Keller, Langley, BC

A standard issue NASA-era Mustard Yellow Test Pilot Flight Suit from the late 1960s era, owned and worn by the Apollo 15 Astronaut, Col. James Benson Irwin, USAF. His ID label is at the neck beneath the Kings Point Mfg. Co. tag. An embroidered 2.75" diameter NASA "Apollo 15" patch is sewn on the right breast, his leather name patch is attached by a Velcro strip is sewn on the left breast and below a latter addition is affixed a Staff patch from James Irwin's High Flight Foundation which he founded in July 1972. A rare NASA item personally used by an Apollo moonwalker.

Biographical Data



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
Houston, Texas 77058

JAMES IRWIN (COLONEL, USAF, RET.)
NASA ASTRONAUT (DECEASED)

PERSONAL DATA: Born March 17, 1930, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Died August 8, 1991 of a heart attack. He is survived by his wife Mary Ellen and their five children.

EDUCATION: Graduated from East High School, Salt Lake City, Utah. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Naval Science from the United States Naval Academy in 1951 and Master of Science degrees in Aeronautical Engineering and Instrumentation Engineering from the University of Michigan in 1957. Awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Astronautical Science from the University of Michigan in 1971, an Honorary Doctorate of Science from William Jewell College in 1971, and an Honorary Doctorate from Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1972.

ORGANIZATIONS: Member of the Air Force Association and the Society of Experimental Test Pilots.



SPECIAL HONORS: Recipient of the NASA Distinguished Service Medal, the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal and Command Pilot Astronaut Wings, two Air Force Commendation Medals for service with the Air Force Systems Command and the Air Defense Command, and an Outstanding Unit Citation while a member of the 4750th Training Wing; also awarded the City of New York Gold Medal (1971), the United Nations Peace Medal in 1971, the City of Chicago Gold Medal (1971), the Air Force Association's David C. Schilling Trophy (1971), the 1971 Kitty Hawk Memorial Award, the AIAA Haley Astronautics Award for 1972, the Arnold Air Society's 1972 John F. Kennedy Trophy, the Robert J. Collier Trophy for 1971, Belgium's Order of Leopold (1971), and the New York Police Department St. George Association's Golden Rule Award in 1972, the Christian Service Award, and the Milan Hulbert Trophy of SWAP International (1973).

EXPERIENCE: Irwin, an Air Force Colonel, was commissioned in the Air Force upon graduation from the Naval Academy in 1951. He received his flight training at Hondo Air Base and Reese Air Force Base, Texas.

Prior to reporting for duty at the Manned Spacecraft Center, he was assigned as Chief of the Advanced Requirements Branch at Headquarters Air Defense Command. He was graduated from the Air Force Aerospace Research Pilot School in 1963 and from the Air Force Experimental Test Pilot School in 1961.

He also served with the F-12 Test Force at Edwards Air Force Base, California, and with the AIM 47 Project Office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

During his military career, he accumulated more than 7,015 hours flying time, 5,300 hours in jet aircraft.

NASA EXPERIENCE: Colonel Irwin was one of the 19 astronauts selected by NASA in April 1966. He was crew commander of lunar module (LTA-8)—this vehicle finished the first series of thermal vacuum tests on June 1, 1968. He also served as a member of the astronaut support crew for Apollo 10 and as backup lunar module pilot for the Apollo 12 flight.

Irwin served as lunar module pilot for Apollo, July 26 to August 7, 1971. His companions on the flight were David R. Scott, spacecraft commander and Alfred M. Worden, command module pilot. Apollo 15 was the fourth manned lunar landing mission and the first to visit and explore the moon's Hadley Rille and Apennine Mountains which are located on the southeast edge of the Mare Imbrium (Sea of Rains). The lunar module, "Falcon", remained on the lunar surface for 66 hours,

54 minutes—setting a new record for lunar surface stay time—and Scott and Irwin logged 18 hours and 35 minutes each in extravehicular activities conducted during three separate excursions onto the lunar surface. Using “Rover-1” to transport themselves and their equipment along portions of Hadley Rille and the Apennine Mountains, Scott and Irwin performed a selenological inspection and survey of the area and collected approximately 180 pounds of lunar surface materials. They deployed an ALSEP package which involved the emplacement and activation of surface experiments, and their lunar surface activities were televised in color using a TV camera which was operated remotely by ground controllers stationed in the mission control center located at Houston, Texas. Other Apollo 15 achievements included: largest payloads ever placed in earth and lunar orbits; first scientific instrument module bay flown and operated on an Apollo spacecraft; longest distance traversed on lunar surface; first use of a lunar surface navigation device, mounted on Rover 1; first subsatellite launched in lunar orbit; and first extravehicular activity (EVA) from a command module during transearth coast. The latter feat was accomplished by Worden during three excursions to “Endeavour’s” SIM bay where he retrieved film cassettes from the panoramic and mapping cameras and reported his personal observations of the general condition of equipment housed there.

Apollo 15 concluded with a Pacific splashdown and subsequent recovery by the USS OKINAWA.

In completing his first flight, Irwin logged 295 hours and 11 minutes in space—19 hours and 46 minutes of which were in EVA.

Colonel Irwin resigned from NASA and the Air Force in July 1972, to form a religious organization, High Flight Foundation, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He is Chairman of the Board.

AUGUST 1972





KINGS POINT
POINT SSNICK
KINGS
MADE BY
KINGS POINT MFG. CO.
FAVETTWOOD, N.C.



J.B. IRWIN





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FLIGHT

STAFF





KINGS POINT



KINGS POINT

EXPRESSLY MADE BY

KINGS POINT MFG. CO.

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.

JAMES B. IRWIN





CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

It is hereby certified that the item that accompanies this document has been validated as an authentic memorabilia item described as follows:

YELLOW FLIGHT SUIT

This item has been personally worn by:

NASA ASTRONAUT JAMES B. IRWIN

We hereby verify that the item described herein is an original flight suit that was worn and used by NASA astronaut James B. Irwin. The flight suit was manufactured by 'Kings Point Mfg.' and contains an internal nametag 'James B. Irwin' that has been sewn inside the suit. The exterior of the flight suit bears a name badge 'J.B. Irwin'; an Apollo 15 embroidered patch; and a 'High Flight - Staff' embroidered patch. There is slight staining on the flight suit below the 'High Flight' patch.

This item was obtained by Legends in Time Memorabilia in (approximately) 1998. It was on display in our gallery in Langley BC for approximately 5 years and was subsequently sold to one of our clients.



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legends@shaw.ca www.legendscanada.com

UACC
REGISTERED DEALER #0138



-----Original Message-----

From: lotzmann [mailto:lotzmann@med.uni-marburg.de]
Sent: July 20, 2021 3:27 AM
To: Paul Crawford
Subject: Re: Apollo XV Col. James Benson Irwin, USAF (1930 -1991)

Hi Paul,

absolutely no reason to thank me. Take it as a service of the ALSJ team.

Let me know when you will be in Germany. Would love to meet you.

Best

Ulli

-----Original Message-----

From: lotzmann [mailto:lotzmann@med.uni-marburg.de]
Sent: July 20, 2021 1:00 AM
To: Paul Crawford
Cc: Eric Jones; ken glover; ulli lotzmann
Subject: Re: Apollo XV Col. James Benson Irwin, USAF (1930 -1991)

Hi Paul,

this suit was sold by Mary Irwin in the Feb 1994 Odyssey auction.
I have found a note in my little archive that Mary told the buyer that Jim wore it for painting the house after he have left NASA.

Best

Ulli

-----Original Message-----

From: lotzmann [mailto:lotzmann@med.uni-marburg.de]
Sent: July 19, 2021 10:15 PM
To: Paul Crawford
Cc: 'Eric Jones'; 'ken glover'; 'ulli lotzmann'
Subject: Re: Apollo XV Col. James Benson Irwin, USAF (1930 -1991)

Hi Paul,

is Irwin's suit stained with some paint?

Best

Ulli

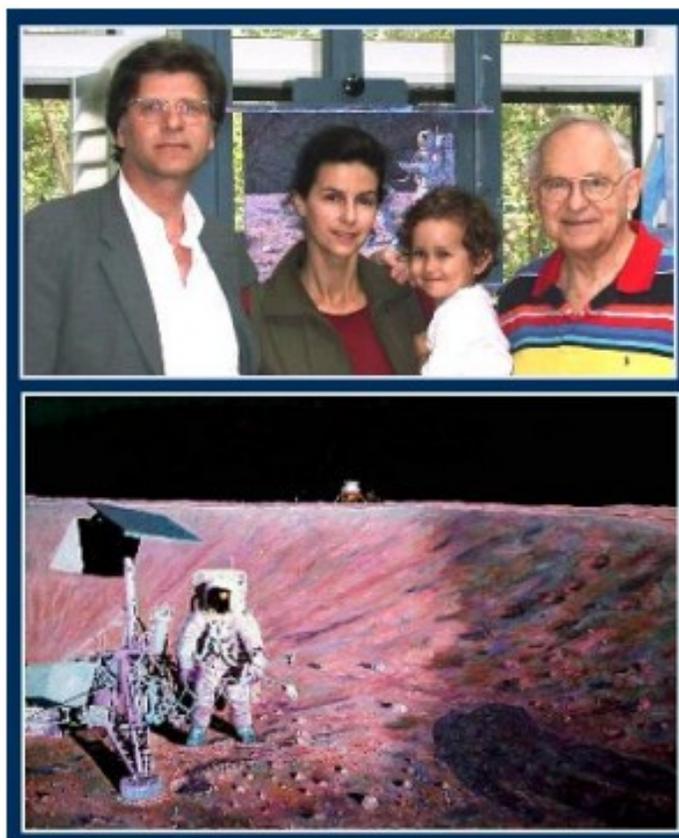


Ulli Lotzmann

I was born in December 1956 and live with my wife Martina and son Christian in Marburg, Germany. There I work at the Medical Faculty of the Philipps-University as a full-time professor and chair of the Department of Prosthodontics and Orofacial Pain.

I have had a fascination for astronomy and space exploration since my childhood in the good old Apollo days. In my spare time I do such things as painting, high-resolution astrophotography, and work on a book that will focus on the Apollo 12 mission.

December 2002



The upper photo shows Al Bean (right), Christian, Martina and me on March 15 2002 in the Bean residence. The lower photo shows one of my latest paintings, titled 'Meeting Point Surveyor III'. Al's influence is clearly visible.

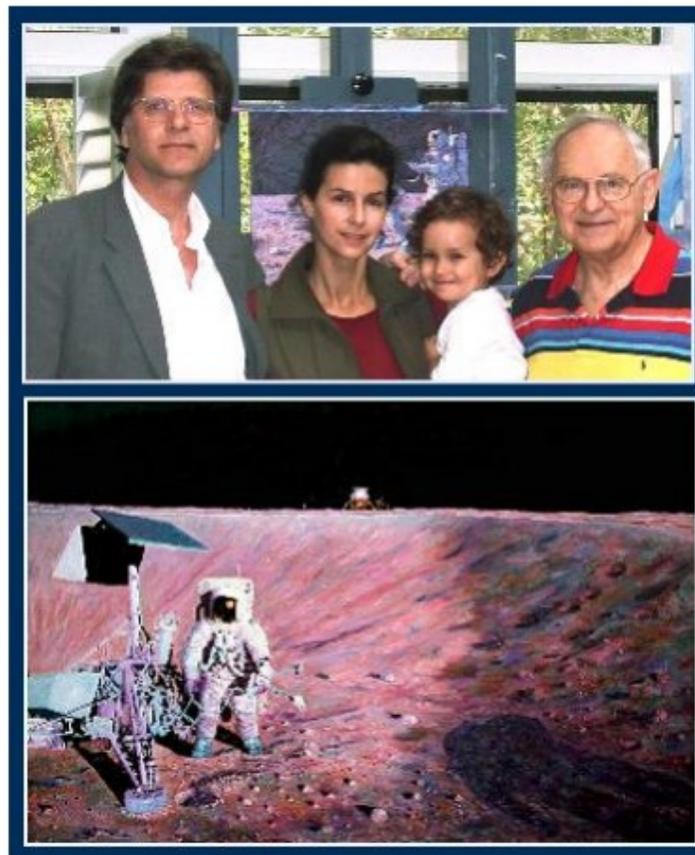


**Ken, Eric, and Ulli on the Plaza in Santa Fe, New Mexico.
Photo by Angele Glover, 2004.**

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Ulrich Lotzmann



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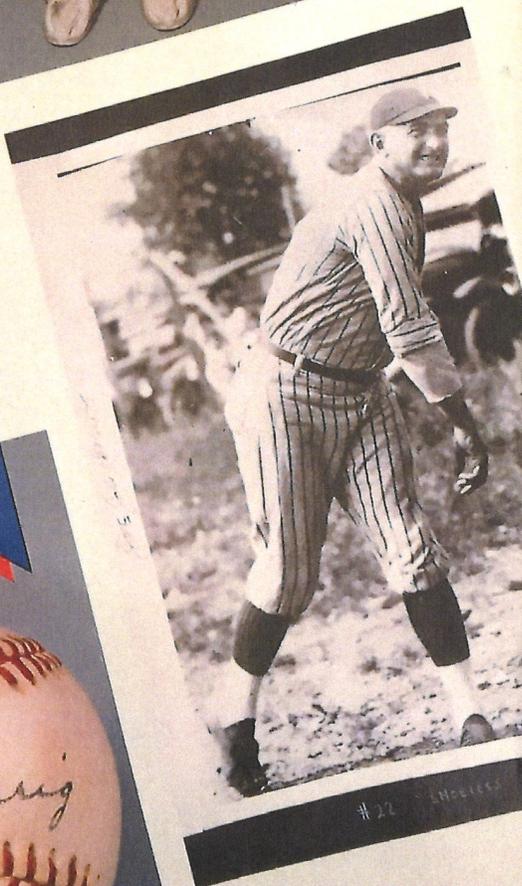
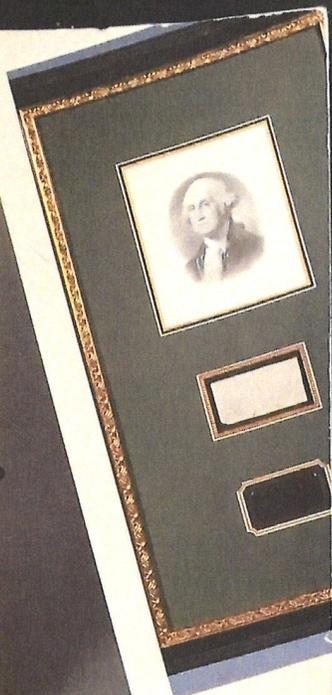
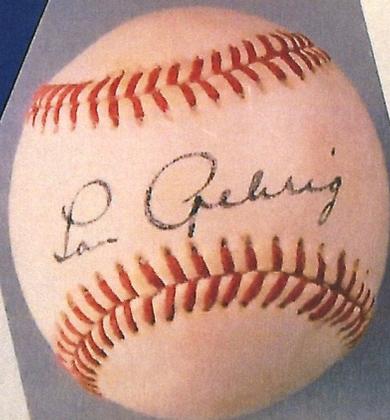
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FEBRUARY 27, 1994


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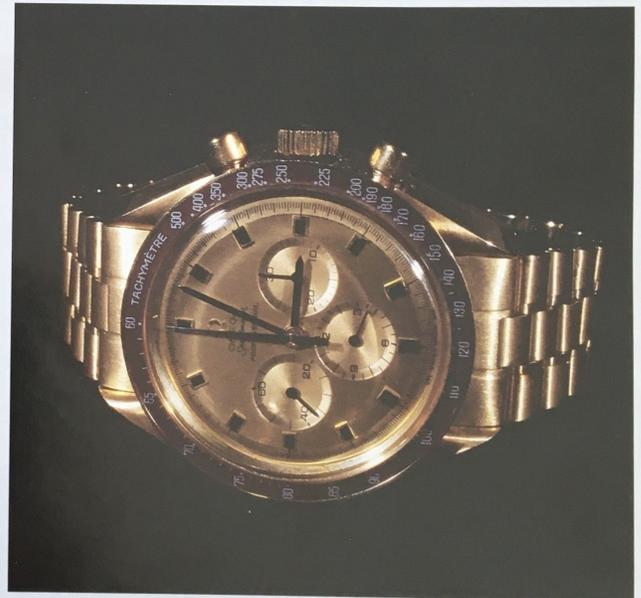
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Top - lot No. 17
Above - lot No. 15



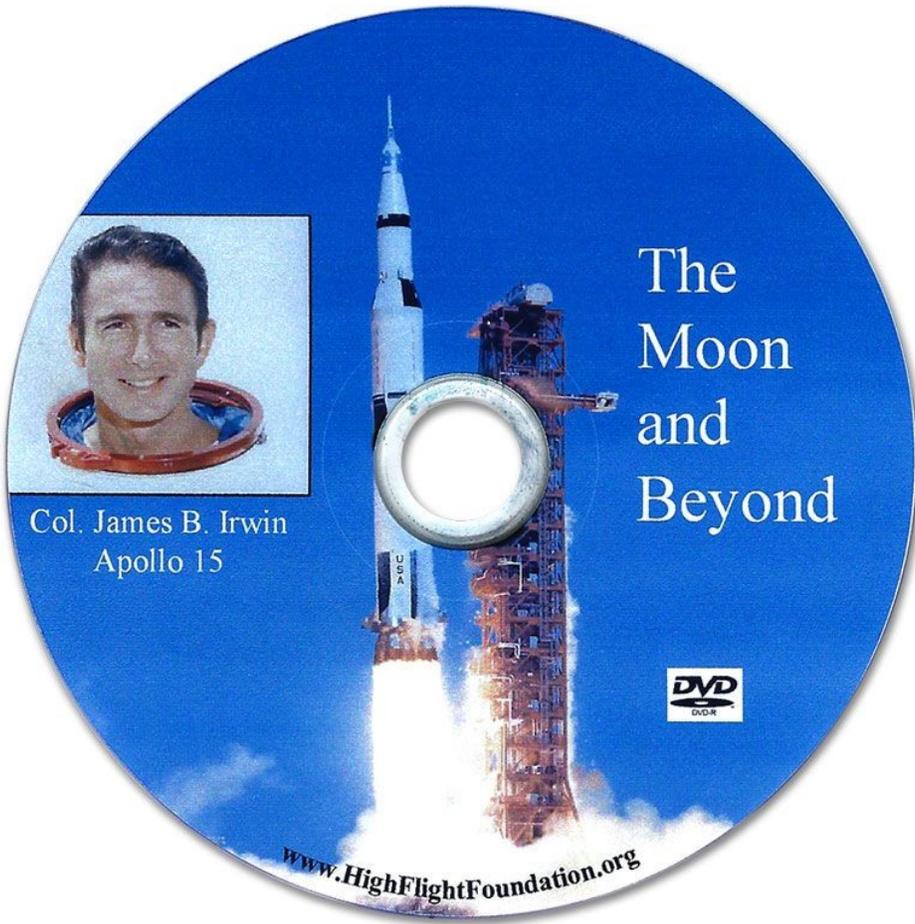


225. **Jim Irwin's Flight Suit.**
The mustard-colored coverall owned and worn by Irwin bearing an Apollo XV patch, a leather patch imprinted "J.B. Irwin" and a "High Flight Staff" patch. A very desirable piece.

\$1,000-1,200

\$1,700





Col. James B. Irwin
Apollo 15

