

SPACE HEIGHTS OF UKRAINIAN ASTRONAUT LEONID KADENYUK

Translation made from original Ukrainian article.

LET'S PUT A FOOTPRINT MADE BY SHINY SHOES RECEIVED AT GATE 6 T5 JFK.

When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained; What is man, that Thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that Thou visitest him? For Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands; Thou hast put all things under his feet. Psalms 8:3-6

On numerous requests from readers, in this issue of our edition, we give an interview of Chief Editor of the newspaper Bible's Word, Igor Sauchuk, with an extraordinary man, the first astronaut of the Ukraine, Leonid Kadenyuk.

Igor S: We are countrymen. How often do you visit Bukovina and your native village Klishkivtsi?

Leonid K: Bukovina, as for me, isn't only my homeland where I was born and grew up, where my mother, brother, relatives, and friends live, it is also the most loved of our planet. Whenever I go, it always pulls me to Bukovina to my village Klishkivtsi. Life is set in such a way that a human being must leave his nest and, being caught by destiny, has to find his new place for living on his planet. But, I have to say, one of the happiest and most joyful moments in our lives is the joy of returning to our first home. When I was a lead-deputy in Khotyn's county electoral district, (which includes four regions: Zastavnyansky, Kelmenetsky, Sokyryansky, and Khotynsky), I was there every month having meetings with my electoral. As for now, unfortunately, I visit rarely.

Igor S: Do you have a desire and a possibility to again go into space?



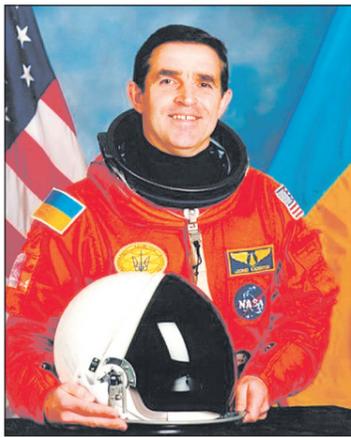
Leonid K: Of course, as a professional astronaut, I do. Yet, even more, in the past flight a lot of questions had been raised toward space, and you can get answers in space. Also, I'd like to do some job outside of the orbit-station in open space. Speaking of possibilities, it is hard to answer. At this moment, there are negotiations with Russia Space Program about the possibility of a Ukrainian man into the International Space Station. A decision about who will go into flight will be made by Ukrainian selection. So, there is such a possibility blinking at the end of the tunnel. I have a strong desire to see this astronaut's vision come true without it being diluted by politics or by some kind of hidden political agenda.

Igor S: As I remember, you voted during the president's elections for Party of Regions. Did this team justify your expectations?

Leonid K: Unfortunately, the economic situation in Ukraine is so complicated and unexpected that even if another political power would come to power, as a new authority, then that authority also could not accomplish what it is supposed to. Furthermore, there appears to be a lot of questions for this government. But, in comparison to the past, this government did at least something positive.

Igor S: Are you missing NASA? Do you keep in friendly touch with your friends in the USA?

Leonid K: Of course, I miss my friends that I made in the USA, especially with whom I flew into space in the STS-87 mission: Kevin Krigel, chief pilot; Steve Lindsey, pilot; Winston Scott, mission specialist; Takao Doi, mission



specialist; and also representative of Japan, Kalpan Chawla, mission specialist (who unfortunately died during the last Columbia mission on February 1, 2003).

Of course, I miss the city of Houston and the whole USA in general. I will always remember, with deepest thanks, these interesting times and people whom I met in such a wonderful country. I'm also thankful



for that time when former President Bill Clinton signed with our president, L. Kuchma, an agreement for the flight of a Ukrainian man in an American Shuttle. Speaking of connections with colleagues, it happens randomly, either by e-mails or telephone calls. It would be better if we would connect more often or see each other, but barriers for that seem to arise.

Igor S: What did you remember the most from the space flight from above?

Leonid K: A lot of overwhelming impressions. First of all, I entered into a different world. Although it is so. But most importantly, it is a different view of our planet from the perspective of space and existence of zero gravity. It is impossible to describe the beauty of Earth from space. From there, it seemed that, on such a beautiful planet, a very nice life must exist. I must say, that cosmic mission gave me an opportunity to deeply understand and appreciate the problems of human society. The flight into space helped me to deeply realize how much injustice exists in human society toward Earth, as well as toward its cradle. I wrote a whole book about this question called Mission-Cosmos. There, you will find a full answer to your question.

While staying on Earth's orbit, I deeply realized that human beings surely must go into space. First of all, for the reason to make life better on Earth. Secondly, for research possibilities of our anatomy and physiology, which are opening only over there, I am convinced. Because, in the cosmos, I was accomplishing experiments, not only pursued goals planned by Ukrainian and American scientists, but also, being in zero gravitation, I accepted an altogether experiment of the nature over myself as a biological being.

Cosmos-it is not just unlimited emptiness, as it seems at first sight. It is full of questions and answers. Fellow man will surely find answers



to many questions such as, "Who are we? Why do we exist? Where are we going?"

Among new "cosmic" information, there were situations that called me to be on alert. For instance, looking down from space for the first time and taking a glimpse at Earth and noticing a thin layer of atmosphere on the background of black space against which Earth hovered, in all honesty, I was scared. At that moment, one thought crossed my mind: "Is it really possible, in such a thin layer, that life exists on Earth, not only on Earth, but in the solar system and far beyond it. And, I thought how we unrighteously behave to the biosphere and to nature." There in space, I deeply realized that phenomenal Earth is a special planet in the universe, and its unique and delicate beauty are in direct contradiction with the military actions of humans. It is exactly over there you sharply come to the realization (awareness) of the foolishness of people's actions, which can ruin this beauty by huge spending on the manufacturing, developing, and keeping of nuclear, chemical, and bacteriological weapons and other kinds of self-destruction. All this accepting as evil against Life on Earth.

Igor S: Please tell, looking from space onto Earth, did you have a thought that Earth and the universe were created by God?

Leonid K: By your question, you reminded me of one expression by American astronaut, John Glenn, who in his 77th year, reached space for the second time: "To look out at this creation and not believe in God is impossible. To see the Earth from this vantage point only strengthens my beliefs." I fully agree with such a conclusion. Staying in space made me much closer to understanding this thing: that our existence in the universe it is not an accident and that Earth and the universe as well from some point of existence couldn't be without some order; they are consequences of the action of a Mighty Mind.

Igor S: Today, a lot of politicians and authority leaders attend churches, read the Bible, and even recite verses in their speeches. What about you? Did your attitude change toward the Bible after your space flight?



Leonid K: The flight into space, on some level, has taken me away from the science that we were taught. But, not in a science I contradict, no. I mean that, until now, science didn't give answers to many questions such as, "From where did everything come into existence?" For example, biological life on Earth is made up of molecules of white cells and DNA. The algorithm of the DNA chain action is so complicated that even scientists have come to the conclusion that it couldn't appear just by itself without help from the Mind from above; it just couldn't happen. There are a lot of such examples. Speaking of the Bible, I have one, and sometimes I look into it. Penetrating into the ideas that have been said in it, I recall what I've seen and felt in space. Moreover, the Bible helps to understand those things on which science cannot give an answer.

Igor S: Lots of our countrymen would like to accomplish their skills flying ultra lights and paragliders. But, at the present moment, economically, it is too difficult. Is it possible to depend on at least some help in this project from authorities?



Picture taken in the Presidents Palace in Ukraine

Leonid K: Yes, in fact. Right now, there are many of those who wish to fly small airplanes and own them. But, as you so correctly stated, it is an expensive pleasure. Thus, not all who desire to do so have the financial possibility to be occupied by this interesting affair. Unfortunately, to expect some help from authorities is unreasonable. The government has to contribute with its proper laws and create support organizations, and most importantly, not invade (mess) into it. Hereby, I, as a professional pilot, would like to warn those who have a dream of flying that to be in third level space (in heaven) requires, not only spending

of finances, but also thorough training (with knowledge of aerodynamics, technique, meteorology, etc). This is because gravitation (the power of pull) has power of influence on all those flying, those who invested money and those who did not.

Igor S: What is your perspective of Lujany's village airfield (where Igor takes flight lessons) and also Chernivtsi Airport (nearby)? What about the idea to create, in Chernivtsi district, an air club "Wings of Bukovina"?

Leonid K: I have to say that the status of aviation in Bukovina reflects the situation of aviation in the whole Ukraine. There was a time when the sky was abuzz with airplanes. And, Chernivtsi Airport was loaded with them. The reason for the current situation is a lack of finances. Another problem of aviation in Ukraine is preparation of workers. It is a catastrophic situation. Talking about investments in the Chernivtsi Airport, I take actions which involve research for investors. Creation of the air club "Wings of Bukovina" I can only welcome. Bukovinians have to fly, and I wish it were possible for all my countrymen, and I wish them success in it.

Interviewed by Igor Sauchuk, member of Union of Journalists of Ukraine, Chief Editor of Bible's Word Newspaper, your pilot friend with 23 flight hours on small planes, as well as a paraglider pilot and builder of De Havilland Gipsy Moth (investor) and author of the book Only About the Love of God.

BIOGRAPHY OF LEONID KADENYUK

Leonid Konstantynovych Kadenyuk: first astronaut of the Ukraine, Ukraine Candidate of Technical Science, test astronaut, test pilot of first class major general of aviation, social deputy of Ukraine of fourth election, national serviceman of first range.

Born January 28, 1951, Klishkivtsi village, Khotyn's area, Chernivtsi district into teacher's family. Nationality: Ukrainian.

1967 graduated Klishkivtsi middle school with silver medal and went to Chernivtsi's Highest Military Aviation School of pilots. Graduated in 1971 with degree in Piloting and Testing Aircrafts.

1974-1976 served as a pilot instructor in Chernigiv's High Aviation School. In 1976, was elected into the squadron of cosmonauts of USSR.

1977 graduated Center of Preparation of Pilots, Astronauts, Test-pilots Air Force of USSR and received test pilot qualification. In 1977-1979, at the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center, passed full course major space training and received test astronaut qualification.

1985 went to study in Moscow's Institute of Aviation, graduated in 1989. Obtained degree of Engineer Mechanic.

Test pilot of first class. Flying experience involved 56 types of aircrafts and modifications of different preparations, mostly fighters. Took initiative to create test flying aviation systems, also test flights of aircrafts third and fourth generations: MIG-23, MIG-27, MIG-29, MIG-31, SU-25, SU-27, and other modifications.

During his preparation for space flights, received unique engineering and flight training education. At this time, studied cosmic shuttles as Soyuz, Soyuz-TM, multi-purpose cargo shuttle Buran, orbit station Salyut, and partly orbit complex Mir. Took full program in training as captain of cosmic shuttle Soyuz-TM, also multi cargo cosmic shuttle Buran.

1996 left Military Force of Russia and moved to Ukraine. Between 1996-1998, was working as a scientist at Academy of National Institute of Botanic of National Science of the Ukraine in Kiev city. 1996-1997 was trained at NASA for preparation in transport space shuttle Columbia.

19 Nov-5 Dec 1997 accomplished space flight (Mission STS-87). Since 1998, was in Military Force of Ukraine, title major general (19/01/1998). During 1998-2002, took a chair as a chief of governing over aviation of military forces of air defense for Ukraine Assistant Aeronautics, deputy of General Inspector of Main Military Inspection of Ukraine, consultant to President of Ukraine in questions of aviation and astronautics.

1998 awarded International Promotion of Orlik.

1998 received title of Master Sportsman of Ukraine.

2002 was chosen as National Deputy of electoral district N 205 of the Chernivtsi district. Deputy of the Head of Committee of Supreme Council of Ukraine on questions of national safety and defense.

12 December 1997, for his accomplishment of space flight, awarded NASA's Space Flight Medal. In the USA in December 1999, awarded the title "Hero of Ukraine" receiving a Gold Star medal. Awarded by medals as: "For Bravery" first stage. (1998 N001) "For Multiplying Goodness on Earth" (1998). "Saint Arkhistratig of God's Michael" (23/01/1999). "Social Honor and Might," "Golden Fortuna" (18/05/2005). "For deserves" third stage, gift (signed) named armed weapon (25/01/2001), 10 medals.

Awarded titles of honorable professor of Chernivtsi National University, honorable professor of Poltava National Technical University of Yuri Kondratyuk, and honorable professor of National Transport University (in Kiev). Member of observing consultation of National Technical University of Ukraine "Kyiv Polytechnic Institute." Has received honorable calling of National Consul of Ukraine (17/03/2009), honorable citizen of city Chernivtsi (02/10/2001), and also Khotyn's area (08/04/2011).

Author of five scientific works and artistic publishing of Mission-Cosmos which became a bestselling book in 2009 in Ukraine, for which he was granted by diploma "Gran-Pri" in nomination "Reader's Choice" during nomination Kharkiv's festival "Book World" (2011). Accomplished translating and publishing Mission-Cosmos into Russian language in 2011.

In March 2006, left military service of Ukraine. In 2006, wrote scientific work and received the title Candidate of Technical Science.

Government's worker of first range. Consultant to Prime Minister of Social Affairs. Active member of union Intellect of Nation. Member of colleagues of National Cosmic Agency of Ukraine. Member of governing Ukrainian-German Forum. Member of governing Ukrainian Youth Aerospace union Stars Constellation. Vice President of Aerospace Union of Ukraine. Honorable member of Social Council at Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

Hobbies: Sports (running long distances, soccer), art, literature, history, classical music.