
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4016

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Wood, Benson, Gombosky, Cox, Schoesler, Ahern, Schindler, Crouse, Sump, Skinner, Santos and McDermott

Read first time 02/14/2003. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 TO THE HONORABLE DOUGLAS B. MACDONALD, SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION,
2 AND TO THE WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, AND TO THE
3 WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

4 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
5 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
6 represent and petition as follows:

7 WHEREAS, Michael P. Anderson, Lieutenant Colonel in the United
8 States Air Force and NASA Astronaut, at the age of 43 was one of seven
9 causalities onboard the ill-fated Shuttle Columbia; and

10 WHEREAS, Michael P. Anderson was one of a very small number of
11 African-American astronauts selected to go into space; and

12 WHEREAS, Michael P. Anderson grew up in the Spokane, Washington,
13 area and graduated from Cheney High School in 1977; and

14 WHEREAS, Michael P. Anderson is remembered by residents of Spokane,
15 Washington, as a role model young man, who as an adult never stopped
16 inspiring young people to be the best they could be; and

17 WHEREAS, Michael P. Anderson attended the University of Washington,
18 where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in physics and astronomy
19 in 1981, and later attended Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska,
20 where he earned a Master of Science degree in physics in 1990; and

1 WHEREAS, Michael P. Anderson served as an instructor pilot and
2 tactics officer at Plattsburgh Air Force Base in New York State when he
3 was selected to be an astronaut by NASA in 1994; and

4 WHEREAS, Michael P. Anderson moved to Houston, Texas, in March 1995
5 and underwent a year of training to qualify for a space shuttle flight
6 crew assignment as a mission specialist; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1998, Michael P. Anderson traveled on the STS-89, on a
8 Shuttle-Mir docking mission, where he and his crew transferred more
9 than 9,000 pounds of scientific equipment, logistical hardware, and
10 water from the Space Shuttle Endeavor to Mir, logging over 211 hours in
11 space; and

12 WHEREAS, Michael P. Anderson served as a Lieutenant Colonel on the
13 Space Shuttle Columbia's last mission, which lasted sixteen days, and
14 where he was in charge of science experiments dealing with global
15 climate, human physiology, and fire suppression, as well as being in
16 charge of the Shuttle's payload; and

17 WHEREAS, Michael P. Anderson received numerous honors during his
18 lifetime, including being awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal,
19 the United States Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, and the United
20 States Air Force Achievement Medal;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
22 Washington State Transportation Commission commence proceedings to name
23 State Route Number 904, running through the city of Cheney, Washington,
24 the "Michael P. Anderson Memorial Highway."

25 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
26 transmitted to the Honorable Douglas B. MacDonald, Secretary of
27 Transportation, the Washington State Transportation Commission, the
28 Washington State Department of Transportation, and the family of
29 Michael P. Anderson.

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