



The Last Man On the Moon

By Eugene Cernan

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This is the story of a unique American hero who came of age as an astronaut during the few dramatic years when man reached the moon. Cernan's career spanned the entire Apollo program, from the tragic fire that killed three of his comrades on Apollo 1, through the moment when he left man's last footprint on the moon as commander of Apollo 17.

This is the inside story of how space was conquered, and at what price. Cernan writes candidly not only about the program, but about the high divorce rate among the astronauts, the loss of family privacy that came with celebrity, and the ever-present shadows of death and failure.

"With the feeling of a story recalled among friends, this is an appealing down to earth account of the last man to walk on the moon...loved the book." —Ron Howard, Director, *Apollo 13*

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The Last Man On the Moon By Eugene Cernan Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

That "Geno" Cernan was commander of *Apollo 17*, the final manned moon mission, was a fitting conclusion to a flying career that included two previous stints in space (*Gemini 9* and *Apollo 10*). His frank, earthy memoir of his years at NASA adds another entertaining, informative volume to the burgeoning shelf of books illuminating the inner workings of the space program and the people who made it happen. Coauthor Don Davis, a veteran journalist, helps Cernan craft a colloquial prose style that nicely captures the competitive, macho personality that seemed virtually mandatory for astronauts in the 1960s and '70s. Cernan candidly depicts the reckless streak that twice led to needless injuries jeopardizing his spot on a mission. He also acknowledges the stresses endured by his ex-spouse Barbara as she struggled to be the perfect astronaut wife--cheerful and uncomplaining for the cameras while he experienced all the fun and adventure of the job. And it sure was fun, as becomes clear in the exciting descriptions of his spacewalk from *Gemini 9* and stroll around the moon from *Apollo 17*. Detailed accounts of each flight, including technical problems and personal tensions (particularly with *Apollo 17* teammate Jack Schmitt, distrusted because he was a scientist, not a test pilot), remind readers that the space program is a human endeavor, with inevitable failures that make the triumphs that much sweeter. --Wendy Smith

From Publishers Weekly

Gemini and Apollo astronaut Cernan, helped by Davis (*A Father's Rage*, etc.), takes readers with him on one great space adventure after another including Gemini 9's "Spacewalk from Hell," Apollo 1's fire, Snoopy's hair-raising sloop by the lunar surface. Readers experience the agony of life-or-death decision making in the Apollo 13 control room, exult with Cernan and geologist Jack Schmitt throughout the mission of Apollo 17 and meet legendary characters of the astronaut corps and the technical and political leaders who shared their glory. Cernan reveals the risk-taking, competitive personality and oversized self-confidence that drove his success as a test pilot and astronaut. He also acknowledges his failings as a husband to his first wife, Barbara, whom he presents as a quiet, strong homefront heroine who always found the right words in public despite her private difficulties. However, careful readers may see more of Cernan than he intended to display. His admiration and friendship may justify letting Wernher von Braun and Spiro Agnew off the hook for what many consider their political and personal misdeeds, but his unforgiving view of Buzz Aldrin seems to stem from personal animus. Why must the last man on the moon demean the second? ("[Aldrin] came flapping into my office at the Manned Spacecraft Center one day like an angry stork..."). Despite the bad taste of Cernan's words about Aldrin, this is an exciting, insider's take on what it was like to become one of the first humans in space. 16 pages of b&w photos not seen by PW. Agent, Jane Dystel. Author tour. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

"This is an exciting, insider's take on what it was like to become one of the first humans in space."

?*Publishers Weekly*

"Eugene Cernan offers unique insight...[he's] experienced it all" ?*African Sun Times*

"A fascinating book...Cernan pulls few punches." ?*Charlotte Observer*

"Refreshingly told...written as though it's been days since he went to space, not decades." ?*St. Petersburg Times*

“[with] thrilling highlights, this is a book not just about space flight but also about the often brutal competition that went on between the US and the Soviet Union.” ?*Washington Times*

“With the feel of a story recalled among friends, this is an appealingly down to earth account from the last man to walk on the moon. No advanced physics, no scientific mumbo-jumbo. Just a thoroughly engrossing recollection of Cernan's crucial role in the conquest of space. I loved the book.” ?Ron Howard, Director, Apollo 13

“I know the American people will learn a great deal from this book. I hope they learn a lot more about astronaut Gene Cernan, my friend, a man of courage and dedication.” ?President George Bush

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Johnny Mosier:

Book is to be different for each grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important for us. The book *The Last Man On the Moon* was making you to know about other understanding and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The e-book *The Last Man On the Moon* is not only giving you considerably more new information but also for being your friend when you feel bored. You can spend your spend time to read your book. Try to make relationship while using book *The Last Man On the Moon*. You never sense lose out for everything in the event you read some books.

Vance Malik:

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Edris Sibert:

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Debra Davin:

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