

Alumni & Friends of Yorktown High School Press Release

For Immediate Release
February 4, 2003

AFYHS SEEKS CONTRIBUTIONS TO HONOR DR. DAVID M. BROWN, CLASS OF 1974, MEMBER OF NASA SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA WITH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Arlington, Virginia, February 4, 2003: In response to requests from the greater Yorktown High School Community, the Alumni & Friends of Yorktown High School, Inc, (AFYHS) (www.yorktownalums.org) announces that it is accepting charitable contributions in Memory of Dr. David M. Brown (Commander USN) and NASA Astronaut. All proceeds will be used to award Merit Scholarships for Yorktown High School graduates who demonstrate academic and extra-curricular excellence. The funds are to be used by the awardees for their post-secondary school education.

Dr. Brown, a NASA Astronaut, and 1974 graduate of Arlington Virginia's Yorktown High School, died on February 1st, 2003, during re-entry of the NASA Space Shuttle Columbia. Dr. Brown was an accomplished gymnast while in High School, and at the College of William and Mary from which he graduated in 1978. He earned his medical degree from the Eastern Virginia Medical School in 1982.

After completing his medical internship at the Medical University of South Carolina, Dr. Brown joined the Navy where he served in Alaska, the western Pacific aboard the USS Carl Vinson, and later in Japan aboard the USS Independence. In 1988, he was the only flight surgeon in a ten year period to be selected for pilot training from which he graduated first in his class. Dr. Brown was qualified to fly the A-6E

Intruder, F-18 Hornet, and T-38 Talon. Dr. Brown was selected by NASA to become an Astronaut in 1996.

He was President, International Association of Military Flight Surgeons Pilots, and an Associate Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association, and a member of the U.S. Navy Flight Surgeons.

Among his many honors was the Navy Operational Flight Surgeon of the Year Award in 1986, the Meritorious Service Medal, and Navy Achievement Medal.

Dr. Brown prided himself in acting as an intermediary between pilots and medical personal on flight-related medical issues.

We are deeply saddened by David's loss, and the deaths of his amazingly accomplished crewmates aboard the Columbia.

To make a tax-deductible contribution in Memory of Dr. Brown, please send a check payable to Alumni & Friends of Yorktown High School, Inc. to our mailing address at P.O. Box 7698, Arlington, VA 22207 ATTN: "Astronaut David Brown Memorial Scholarship." Please indicate on your check the purpose of your contribution, including your affiliation with Yorktown High School (if any), and an address to which we can send your acknowledgement. Employees of businesses that match charitable contributions should indicate their employer and their interest in furthering their support through corporate matching funds.

A permanent scholarship in Dr. Brown's honor will be established if contributions warrant.

- Contact: Ralph Oser, [Volunteer] Corporate Secretary and Director (703) 536-6672 (Voicemail # 1), scholarships@yorktownalums.org. [Will reply to inquiries after Feb. 15, 2003].

End

