

SIDNEY M. GUTIERREZ

Chairman of the Board

Rocket Crafters, Inc.

Retired NASA Astronaut and Shuttle Commander

Retired Air Force Colonel



Sid is currently the Chairman of the Board of Rocket Crafters, Inc (RCI), an emerging rocket company dedicated to changing the way we access space and making the benefits of space available to all mankind. Before that he served in various leadership capacities at Sandia National Laboratories. As a Center Director he was responsible for programs including satellites, space payloads, sensors, vulnerability assessments and analysis tools, international programs including support to the nuclear fuel cycle and efforts to reduce the threat of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

He is retired from the Air Force at the rank of Colonel where he flew the F-15, F-16, T-38 and many other aircraft while serving as a fighter pilot, test pilot, and instructor pilot. He has logged over 4,500 hours flying time in approximately 30 different types of airplanes, sailplanes, balloons, and rockets. He joined NASA as an astronaut in 1984. On his first mission, Sid served as pilot on the crew of STS-40 Spacelab Life Sciences (SLS-1), a dedicated space and life sciences mission. On his second mission, Sid served as Commander of STS-59 Space Radar Laboratory (SRL-1), part of Mission to Planet Earth. Both missions were recognized with the Aviation Week and Space Technology Laurels for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Space.

He holds a BS in Aeronautical Engineering – Distinguished Graduate - from the United States Air Force Academy and both an MA in Management and an Honorary Doctor of Science from Webster University. In addition to serving on the Board of Rocket Crafters, he is also on the Board of Directors of PNM Resources, the largest electric utility in New Mexico. He has served on the Boards of Roadrunner Foodbank and Goodwill Industries of New Mexico and is a member of the Balloon Museum Board of Trustees. He was previously President of the Board of Regents of New Mexico Tech and Chairman of the Board of Goodwill Industries of New Mexico. He was a member of the Board of Directors of TNP Enterprises, Inc. and Texas-New Mexico Power Company and was a member of the New Mexico Spaceport Authority. He served on NASA's Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel and the International Space Station Management and Cost Evaluation Taskforce, the New Mexico Space Commission and the Governor's Technical Excellence Committee.

He has received many awards including the Hispanic Engineer of the Year National Achievement Award, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Award, and the Hispanic Magazine Achievement Award in Science. He is an inductee into the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Award Hall of Fame and the International Space Hall of Fame. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Legion of Merit, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, two NASA Space Flight Medals, the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal, and the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal. He is married to the former Marianne Sue Cremer from Jefferson City, Missouri. They have three children and six grandchildren.