

News From The 
EAA AIRVENTURE MUSEUM

3000 POBEREZNÝ ROAD OSHKOSH, WI

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museum@aaa.org

www.airventuremuseum.org

Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet
Keynote Speaker: Scott Crossfield

December 17, 2005

On Saturday, December 17, EAA will hold its 3rd Annual Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet in the EAA AirVenture Museum's Eagle Hangar. The dinner, which commemorates the anniversary of man's first successful powered flight, will feature as its keynote speaker aviation legend Scott Crossfield.

Crossfield made aeronautical history on November 20, 1953, when he became the first person to reach Mach 2, piloting the Douglas D-558-II Skyrocket research aircraft to more than 1,320 mph. After five years at Edwards Air Force Base, California, as a test pilot for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Crossfield left to work for North American Aviation, contractor for the X-15 Rocket Plane. As a design consultant and test pilot, he helped guide the development of the X-15 and flew its maiden flights in 1959. He flew the X-15 fourteen times, to a maximum altitude of more than 88,000 feet and a maximum speed of Mach 2.97 (1,960 mph).



Later in his career, Crossfield worked as an executive at Eastern Airlines and Hawker Siddeley Aviation, and served as technical consultant to the U.S. Congress' House Committee on Science and Technology on matters relating to civil aviation. His aviation awards include the Clifford B. Harmon Trophy (1960), the Collier Trophy (1961), and the NASA Distinguished Public Service Medal (1993) for half a century of service to aviation and aeronautics. He has also been inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame (1983), the International Space Hall of Fame (1988), and the Aerospace Walk of Honor (1990). Crossfield's autobiography, *Always Another Dawn: The Story of a Rocket Test Pilot*, was published in 1960.

Reservations for this special evening event are just \$30 for EAA members and \$35 for nonmembers. Make your [reservation on-line by clicking here](#) or by calling 920-426-6880.

Cocktails and a cash bar will be open at 6:30 p.m. with dinner served at 7:00 p.m.

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EAA AirVenture Museum
3000 Poberezný
Oshkosh, WI 54902