

HUNTSVILLE AIR AND SPACE

T. Gary Wicks



Copyright © 2010 by T. Gary Wicks ISBN 978-0-7385-6607-8

Published by Arcadia Publishing Charleston SC, Chicago IL, Portsmouth NH, San Francisco CA

Printed in the United States of America

Library of Congress Control Number: 2009924094

For all general information contact Arcadia Publishing at: Telephone 843-853-2070
Fax 843-853-0044
E-mail sales@arcadiapublishing.com
For customer service and orders:
Toll-Free 1-888-313-2665

Visit us on the Internet at www.arcadiapublishing.com

To engineering, and the men and women who have used their innate skills and acquired knowledge and applied themselves, with discipline and dedication, to the design and construction of flying machines and space vehicles, which have carried humans not only to all parts of the globe, but beyond earth's atmosphere—to walk on the surface of the moon.

Contents

Acknowledgments		6
Introduction		7
1.	Quick Flying Machine	11
2.	Huntsville-Madison County Airport	25
3.	Redstone Arsenal	45
4.	Redstone Airfield	71
5.	Marshall Space Flight Center	83
6.	Research Park and Space Center	107
7.	Pioneers	119

The air age in Huntsville began more than a century ago with Will Quick's design and construction of a flying machine, which he demonstrated in 1908 for patenting and manufacture. The space age began in Huntsville a half century later with the advent of Wernher Von Braun's Redstone Jupiter C rocket, which launched America's first satellite, Explorer 1, into orbit in 1958. A decade later, Huntsville was at the epicenter of the greatest technological achievement of the 20th century as the Saturn V rocket propelled humankind to the moon. Nowhere in the world is the century's rapid advance of air and space technology more apparent than in Huntsville. This unique evolution of flying machines and space vehicles unfolds in this pictorial documentary, including the dramatic growth of the research facilities and community infrastructure that produced these remarkable inventions.

Author T. Gary Wicks is a native Huntsvillian and the great grandson of Will Quick. Wicks was a member of the moon-rocket team and has been a player in the Huntsville story and its significant aerospace achievements. He is a member of the Huntsville Madison County Historical Society and the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center Retiree's Association.

The Images of Aviation series celebrates the history of flight—from the early experimental, lighter-than-air craft to modern commercial, military, and private air machines. Using archival photographs, each title presents the distinctive stories from the past that commemorate aviation and its impact on American industries and communities. Arcadia is proud to play a part in the preservation of local heritage, making history available to all.



www.arcadiapublishing.com









