

ASTRONAUT BIOGRAPHY



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
Houston, Texas 77058

August 2026



Jonny Kim

(LCDR, U.S. Navy) (M.D.) NASA Astronaut

Summary:

Lieutenant Commander (LCDR, U.S. Navy) Jonny Kim was selected by NASA in 2017. Kim is a dual designated Naval Aviator and Flight Surgeon, and as a former Navy SEAL has completed more than 100 combat operations. The California native was commissioned as a naval officer through an enlisted-to-officer program and earned his degree in mathematics at the University of San Diego and a doctorate of medicine at Harvard Medical School. Kim launched to the International Space Station aboard the Roscosmos Soyuz MS-27 spacecraft on April 8, 2025, accompanied by Roscosmos cosmonauts Sergey Ryzhikov and Alexey Zubritsky. He spent eight months aboard the station as an Expedition 72/73 flight engineer, conducting science experiments and maintaining the space station. He returned to Earth on December 9, 2025. Kim retired from the agency on August 27, 2026 after nearly 10 years of service.

Personal Data:

Born and raised in Los Angeles, California to Korean-American immigrants. Enjoys spending time with his wife and their three children, outdoor activities, strength training, video games and lifelong learning activities.

Education:

Santa Monica High School, Santa Monica, California. Bachelor's degree in Mathematics, summa cum laude, University of San Diego, San Diego, California. Doctorate of Medicine (M.D.), Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts. Medical internship, Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency, Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts.

Experience:

LCDR Kim enlisted in the Navy as a Seaman recruit after graduating high school in 2002. After completion of Hospital Corpsman "A" school training, he reported to Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL (BUD/S) training in Coronado, CA. After completing his training at Naval Special Warfare, Kim reported to the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School in Fort Liberty, NC for the Special Operations Combat Medic Course. He was assigned as a Special Warfare Operator to SEAL Team THREE in San Diego, CA and obtained various qualifications including Military Freefall Parachutist, Advanced SCUBA, Combatant Diver (closed circuit rebreather), Naval Special Warfare Special Reconnaissance Scout and Sniper, and Advanced Special Operations Techniques. Kim served as a special operator on more than 100 combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2012, Petty Officer First Class Kim was commissioned as a naval officer through the Navy's enlisted-to-officer commissioning program, Seaman to Admiral-21, following graduation from the University of San Diego. Kim obtained his medical degree from Harvard Medical School and completed his internship with the Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA. Kim is an Aeromedical Dual Designated (AMDD) Naval Aviator and Flight Surgeon, he completed his primary flight training at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi, TX, helicopter advanced flight training at NAS Whiting Field in Milton, FL, and the Naval Flight Surgeon course at the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute at NAS Pensacola, FL.

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NASA Experience:

Kim reported for duty in August 2017 and completed two years of training as an Astronaut Candidate. Training included technical and operational instruction in International Space Station systems, Extravehicular Activities (EVA) Operations, T-38 flight training, robotics, physiological training, expeditionary training, field geology, water and wilderness survival training, and Russian language proficiency training. In 2020, Kim began his support of International Space Station operations as a Capsule Communicator (CapCom) in Mission Control Center Houston and the Artemis program under the astronaut Exploration branch. He served as the International Space Station's Increment Lead for Expedition 65 in 2021. He has continued to support mission and crew operations in various roles within the astronaut office including serving as the Operations Officer, T-38 Liaison to the Aircraft Operations Division and the interim ISS CapCom Chief Engineer. Kim launched to the International Space Station on April 8, 2025, as a flight engineer on the Soyuz MS-27 spacecraft. He spent eight months aboard the station as an Expedition 72/73 flight engineer, conducting science experiments and maintaining the space station. He returned to Earth on December 9, 2025.

Spaceflight Experience:

On April 8, 2025, Kim launched to the International Space Station aboard the Soyuz MS-27 spacecraft, accompanied by Roscosmos cosmonauts Sergey Ryzhikov and Alexey Zubritsky. He spent eight months aboard the station as an Expedition 72/73 flight engineer, conducting science experiments and maintaining the space station. He returned to Earth on December 9, 2025. During the science expedition, Kim logged 245 days in space, orbiting the Earth 3,920 times and traveling nearly 104 million miles. He saw the arrival of nine visiting spacecraft and the departure of six during his time in orbit.

Awards/Honors:

Silver Star Medal, Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V", Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat "V", Combat Action Ribbon and various campaign and service awards. Commodore's List with Distinction, Naval Advanced Flight Training. Naval Special Warfare Medic of the Year, Special Operations Medical Association. Commandant's List, Special Operations Combat Medic Course, Joint Special Operations Medical Training Center (JSOMTC). SEAL Junior Sailor of the Quarter, SEAL Team THREE. Distinguished Honor Graduate, Navy Hospital Corpsman (HM) "A" School. Tillman Scholar, Pat Tillman Foundation. Phi Beta Kappa, Kappa Gamma Pi and Mortar Board Honor Societies.