

Launch commentator for Apollo 11 moon shot, Jack King, dies

June 11 2015, by Marcia Dunn

The voice of the Apollo moon shots has died.

Jack King, the NASA public affairs official who counted down the historic launch of Apollo 11 on July 16, 1969, died Thursday. A retired NASA P-R man in Cape Canaveral, Florida, Hugh Harris, relayed the news.

King died at a hospice facility following a lengthy illness, not far from Kennedy Space Center. He was 84.

King counted down hundreds of the early rocket launches. He said in 2009, on the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing by Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin, that he still enjoyed hearing recordings of himself from that launch day.

In the late 1950s, he ran The Associated Press office in Cape Canaveral.

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