FIRTH PRESENTED NASA EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

James R. Firth was awarded a NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal March 27 at the Honor Awards Ceremony at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va.

He received the award "for exemplary quality assurance leadership during the manufacture of National Transonic Facility fan blades."

Firth began his Langley career in 1964 as an apprentice machinist, subsequently serving as an engineering technician and quality assurance specialist. He is presently Work Leader, Precision Hardware Group, and serves as a quality assurance specialist for precision critical aerospace hardware inspection and evaluation within the Quality Assurance and Inspection Office of the Fabrication Division.

A native of Hampton, Firth graduated from Hampton High School in 1962, and in 1969 earned a machinist journeyman's certificate as a graduate of the NASA Apprentice School.

Firth has been a member of the Fox Hill Volunteer Fire Company for 32 years. He was made a life member in 1990.

He has one daughter, and lives in Hampton.

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