



John Hope

2025 Pathfinder Award Recipient in the Engineering, Education, Operations Categories

The Museum of Flight's Annual Pathfinder Awards honor individuals with ties to the Pacific Northwest who have made significant contributions to the development of the aerospace industry. Pathfinder Award recipients are selected by The Museum of Flight, the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and representatives of other aviation and aerospace organizations and companies throughout the Northwest.



As a graduate from Kingston College of Technology (today Kingston University) in London, England, John Hope wasn't just a scientist—he had a vision for the future. He brought an innovative mind to every job, from developing electronic systems for Solartron Metrology, to supporting test

facilities at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, to becoming a senior engineering leader at Boeing.

Hope joined Boeing in 1967 and was assigned to lead the team developing a state-of-the-art flight simulator for the forthcoming Boeing 747 airframe. Hope's team created a machine system with enough fidelity to allow pilots to learn the nuances of takeoffs and landings in the simulator. This innovation saved Boeing's customers millions in training costs and was a key ingredient to the early success of the 747. Virtually every subsequent transport airplane has relied on this same training capability.

Leveraging his expertise with the Boeing 747 simulator, Hope applied his skills to support NASA in the development of

the 747 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft by modifying the sims to accurately recreate the dynamics of the airframe in flight while transporting a Space Shuttle orbiter.

Later, his teams created and implemented some of the earliest electronic flight bag applications, allowing flight crews to replace stacks of paper documents with a computer screen, leading to yet another round of modernization in the industry.

With warmth, constant good cheer and a wry British sense of humor, Hope brought out the very best in people. His leadership created an environment that fostered innovation and creativity, leading to his team's many successes in redefining the art of the possible.