2023 NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Born: April 30, 1962

Primary Connections:

- NASA Langley Research Center: Senior Materials Engineer, 1990-present

Education:

- Valparaiso University: B.S., Chemistry, 1985
- University of Akron: M.S. and Ph.D., Polymer Science, 1990

Key Memberships/Awards:

- NASA Inventors Hall of Fame, 2021
- Valparaiso University: Distinguished Alumni Award, 2017; Doctor of Science Honoris Causa, 2019
- Space Foundation's Space Technology Hall of Fame: Inductee, 2016
- NASA Langley Research Center: Lifetime Achievement Award, 2013
- Three R&D 100 Awards (R&D Magazine): 1995, 1996, 2000 (Editor's Choice)
- NASA Graduate Student Research Fellowship, 1987-90

10 Things You Need to Know About

Robert G. Bryant

LaRC-SI (Langley Research Center-Soluble Imide)

U.S. PATENT NOS. 5,639,850, 5,741,883 & 6,048,959

1. Bryant was born on April 30, 1962, in Chicago.
2. Growing up as a person of color, Bryant decided to "not let other people determine who and what I should be."
3. Bryant says he developed a love of reading from his mother, a reference librarian.
4. He has oculocutaneous albinism type 2, a genetic condition that causes him significant vision issues. Despite this condition he developed strong reading comprehension skills that gave him an advantage later when it came to reading technical papers and books.
5. Bryant says, "My advice to kids is to read. Read as much as you possibly can."
6. He achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts in 1974.
7. One of the companies that Bryant consulted with was Medtronic, which has licensed his NASA technology.
8. NASA has awarded over two dozen commercial licenses based on technologies Bryant and his NASA teams have developed throughout his tenure.
9. He has received many honors from NASA, including NASA's Invention of the Year, the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal, and induction into the NASA Inventors Hall of Fame.
10. During his NASA tenure, Bryant has more than 30 U.S. patents and over a dozen foreign patents.

National Inventors Hall of Fame®