

**ASIAN
PACIFIC
AMERICAN**
HERITAGE MONTH



**In honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month,
NTEU remembers the first Asian-American astronaut
Ellison Onizuka.**

He entered on active duty with the United States Air Force in January 1970 and was selected as a NASA astronaut in January 1978. He first flew as a mission specialist on the Space Shuttle Discovery, which launched from Kennedy Space Center in Florida on January 24, 1985. With the completion of this flight, he logged a total of 74 hours in space. His life was tragically cut short during the Challenger mission in 1986. Onizuka was posthumously promoted to the rank of Colonel and awarded the Congressional Space Medal of Honor. Our country is better thanks to the scientific contributions of Ellison Onizuka, and other explorers.

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