

# LONG-SERVING SPACE SETTLEMENT ADVOCATE MARK HOPKINS PASSES ON

*Former National Space Society CEO Had a Long History of Supporting Space Initiatives*

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, USA, May 16, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- It is with condolences and appreciation for his past service to the National Space Society that we announce the passing of Mr. Mark Hopkins on Monday, May 8, 2023.

Anita Gale, NSS CEO, said, "Mark Hopkins has been a visible part of the space settlement movement from the very beginning. Much of what NSS is and does today is because Mark made it happen. As the torch is passed to a new generation of space settlement advocates, we will remember Mark's many contributions."



Mark Hopkins

Hopkins was a long-serving member of the National Space Society and one of the key founders from the organization's early days as the L5 Society. He had a BS in Economics from the California Institute of Technology and an MA in economics from Harvard University. When not volunteering for the NSS, he had a long career with the RAND Corporation and provided economic analyses of space settlement for multiple studies including one that resulted in the publication of "NASA SP-413 ["Space Settlements: A Design Study"](#) in 1977.

“

Mark Hopkins has been a visible part of the space settlement movement ... As the torch is passed to a new generation of space settlement advocates, we will remember Mark's many contributions.”

*Anita Gale, NSS CEO*

Lori Garver, former NSS Executive Director and former Deputy Administrator of NASA, said "Mark Hopkins was one of the early space pirates and among a handful of people who initially recognized the value of expanding the

economic sphere beyond Earth and its atmosphere. As a leader in the L-5 Society, he was instrumental in negotiating the merger with the National Space Institute, creating the National Space Society. Mark's dedication to establishing a spacefaring civilization was unmatched and his determination advanced the day when this will become a reality."

In 1975 Hopkins joined the first Board of Directors of the L5 Society, a citizen group dedicated to making Gerard K. O'Neill's vision of the human settlement of free space a reality. In 1987 he was part of the team that negotiated the merger of the L5 Society with the National Space Institute to form the National Space Society (NSS). He held many positions within the organization over the decades, including most recently CEO Emeritus. Hopkins was especially interested in using the political process to advance the cause of space settlement and founded Spacecause and Spacepac for this purpose. He was also active in the successful fight to prevent the United States from ratifying the so-called "Moon Treaty" which would have created obstacles to space development and settlement. Hopkins also traveled to India and China to discuss challenges facing global space powers.

NSS Board of Governors Chairman Karlton Johnson said, "Over the years, Mark shepherded an influx of donations to strengthen the NSS's educational programs and advocated for NSS priorities in Washington, D.C., as well as strengthening the society's international ties in key strategic growth areas. His belief in space settlement has served as a cornerstone for the NSS."

More recently Hopkins initiated the NSS annual Space Settlement Summit, an invitation-only gathering focused on bringing together leaders in the field of space settlement. The sixth annual Summit is currently planned for October 27-28 in Phoenix Arizona under the co-chairmanship of Greg Autry and Zaheer Ali, both professors at the Thunderbird School of Global Management at Arizona State University.

As NSS Secretary David Brandt-Erichsen commented, "It's people like Mark Hopkins who will give humanity the stars."

Those wishing to honor Mark Hopkins's work with the NSS may make a donation at [go.nss.org/settlement-donate](http://go.nss.org/settlement-donate).

The National Space Society was founded in 1987 via a merger of the National Space Institute and the L5 Society. The NSS is the preeminent citizen's voice on space exploration, development, and settlement. To learn more about the NSS and its mission to establish humanity as a spacefaring species, visit us on the web at [space.nss.org](http://space.nss.org).

Dale Skran

National Space Society

+1 908-610-3615

[email us here](#)

Visit us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

Twitter  
YouTube

---

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/633884681>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2023 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.