



SALLY RIDE

Explorer (1951 - 2012)

Ride was a physicist and in 1983 became the first American woman in space when she flew in orbit on the Challenger. She was 32 years old, and is still the youngest American to have traveled in space. Ride was also an investigator after the space shuttle Challenger disaster in 1986, and General Donald Kutyna credited her with providing key information that cracked the case.