Preface

Richard H. Battin is a towering personality in astrodynamics.

These papers were among the twenty-three presented at the Richard H. Battin Astrodynamics Symposium held March 19-21, 2000 at Reed Arena on the Texas A&M University campus. The Symposium was organized by John L. Junkins and K. T. (Terry) Alfriend, and co-sponsored by AAS and Texas A&M University. Junkins, Alfriend and Kathleen C. Howell served as guest editors for this special issue of the Journal. We are delighted to thank all the authors who made presentations at the Symposium, and special speakers Aaron Cohen, Buzz Aldrin, and Janice Voss for helping to make this symposium a memorable event.

These papers have been subjected to the usual peer review process and in some cases differ significantly from the conference versions of the papers. Collectively these are an outstanding set of contributions and represent a fitting tribute to Richard Battin's monumental career.

Dedication to Richard H. Battin. *We salute you Dick for your prolific and distinguished record of scholarship, your awe-inspiring engineering implementations of the Apollo program, your incessant lecturing and teaching, and especially Dick, for your pervasive and inspiring leadership in this field. Your career blossomed to a full and enduring flower during the Apollo Era and you continue to this day to generate beautiful, useful contributions to the field. Your work will eternally illuminate and positively influence both the current and future generations of students in this field. This volume is dedicated to you Dick, we thank you for your lifetime of creative contributions to the methods of astrodynamics, your world-class teaching, and your insightful engineering applications. On behalf of the American Astronautical Society, we are delighted to dedicate to you this Special Issue of the Journal of the Astronautical Sciences.*

God Speed to You, Richard Battin.

John L. Junkins

Kyle T. (Terry) Alfriend

Kathleen C. Howell