



June Scobee Rodgers, Ph.D.

EDUCATOR. AUTHOR. SPEAKER.
FOUNDING CHAIR OF CHALLENGER CENTER

June Scobee Rodgers, the widow of Challenger Space Shuttle Commander Richard “Dick” Scobee, has dedicated her time and energy to continuing the crew’s educational mission. Immediately following the tragedy, June channeled grief into action and led the Challenger shuttle families, along with others, to create [Challenger Center](#) - a living tribute to their loved ones.

January 28, 2016 marks 30 years since the Challenger shuttle accident, and June continues to dedicate her time and energy to the cause. Serving as the **Founding Chairman of Challenger Center**, the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education organization inspires and engages hundreds of thousands of students each year using space-themed simulated learning environments. With more than 40 [Challenger Learning Centers](#), June has helped grow the organization into a global leader in STEM education.

An active and **prominent leader in education** throughout her professional life, June has taught in every grade-level classroom from kindergarten through college. She has been an education consultant on local, state and national levels, and served on the President’s National Advisory Council on Education. In 2015, June received the distinguished Alan Shepard Technology in Education Award.



While best known for her efforts on behalf of Challenger Center, June has also gained attention for her work as an **author**. Together with international bestselling authors, Rebecca Moesta and Kevin J. Anderson, June created the [Star Challengers](#) science adventure books for young readers. Soon to be an animated movie, the three book series take readers on a journey to the future and a real moon base in trouble, where they learn skills to save the human race. The books are designed to spark student interest in space and careers in science and technology.

[Silver Linings ~ My Life before and after the Challenger 7](#) is June’s personal story. It is the story of a ragged teenager who struggles to overcome adversity. It is a story of courage, forgiveness, personal triumph and dreams to soar above it all. And it is the story of finding a small glimmer of light during a time of profound personal grief and using that silver lining to create something remarkable.

As a **speaker**, June has challenged thousands of people through her motivational and contagious personality. Providing the keynote for such diverse groups as the National Prayer Breakfast Dinner and the Southern Surgical Association, June speaks honestly and thoughtfully to each of her audiences.

June has been nationally **recognized and honored with countless awards** during her professional career, including the National Eagle Award, the Women’s International Center’s Living Legacy Award, the Spirit of Volunteerism Awards, the National Space Club Educator Award, and the National Award for Excellence in Leadership.

June holds a Ph.D. from Texas A&M University, a Master’s from Chapman College, CA, and a Bachelor’s of Science from Charleston Southern University, SC. She attended San Antonio Community College, TX, where she later received an Honorary Associate’s Degree. June also has an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree from the University of Leicester, England. She is married to retired Lt. Gen Don Rodgers, and together they have three adult children.