David Adair says he was a child prodigy when it came to astrophysics and rocket science, voraciously reading through all of the relevant literature he could find at his local library. According to his story, when a local librarian noticed he was correcting the flawed data in astrophysics texts, she was amazed and ordered him hundreds more. Adair became enamored with space travel, designing rocket propulsion systems with cryogenic fluids. Eventually this led to his creation of a new type of system that had never before been created, the electromagnetic fusion containment engine. With this engine, he says, his rocket could propel from zero to 8,654 mph in just over four seconds.

Adair was awarded "Most Outstanding in the Field of Engineering" by the U.S. Air Force and was featured in local papers. He says that, upon receiving that award, he started accepting federal funding from the Department of Education's National Science Foundation, thanks to Congressman John Ashbrook. At this point, his mother became intimidated by the amount of attention he was receiving from different military agencies, until she was assuaged by General Curtis LeMay, who would inevitably prove to be a fortuitous relationship for Adair. Several years later, he says he was recruited by the Navy to design mechanisms for changing jet turbine engines.

But after his rocket design at the age of 17, Adair says he was brought to White Sands Missile Testing Facility in southern New Mexico to test launch his rocket. He was told to launch it at a dried-up lake bed of specific coordinates in Nevada. That lake bed, known as Groom Lake, happened to be at an undisclosed military base, now known as Area 51. Adair's launch went off without a hitch, landing at the Nevada test site with parachutes deployed and ready to be reused and launched almost immediately, according to him – Elon Musk would have been jealous.