



**Bryan W. Compton, RADM, USN (Ret.)**  
 "Bryan"

Date of Designation: 6 May 1953      NA# T 3263

Dates of Active Duty: June 1953    December 1982

Total Flight Hours: 5,500

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 1,116

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 2,500    Prop: 3,000    VF/VA: 4,300 VS: 1,200

Combat Tours:

Aug. 66-Oct 66, (A4E) 55 Missions

July 67-Jan 68, (A4E) 130 Missions

Aviation Commands:

VA 163, July 67-July 68

*USS Nimitz* Pre-commissioning Unit & CO 3/72-9/76

CCG-6, May 79-Nov 81

Combat Awards:

Navy Cross

Distinguished Flying Cross w/silver star

Air Medal w/2 gold stars

Bronze Star

**Duty Assignment Chronology**

7/51-2/52    F Div Off, *USS Sicily*, CVE -118  
 2/52-6/53    NABTC, Student, (SNJ, TBM).  
 6/53-1/55    VS-27, Avonics/Personel Officer, (AF).  
 1/55-8/56    VA-35, LSO, Flight Officer.  
 8/56-12/59    USNA, Instructor, (N3N, UF).  
 12/59-7/61    VA-66, NAS Ceil, Maintenance Officer, (A4).  
 7/61-6/63    Navy PG School, Monterey, CA. Student.  
 6/63-1/66    *USS Enterprise*, CIA, Ordnance Officer.  
 1/66-8/66    VA-66, XO, (A4).  
 8/66-8/68    VA-163, XO/CO, (A4).  
 7/68-6/69    Naval War College. Student.



6/69-4/70    NWEF, Albuquerque, Aircraft Projects (A7).  
 4/70-4/71    Nuclear Power Training, Student.  
 4/71-12/71    CO *USS El Paso*, (LKA-117)  
 4/72-9/76    PCO/CO *USS Nimitz*, (A6, A7).  
 9/76-5/79    Naval Sea Systems Command, Deputy for  
                   Aircraft Carrier, Amphibious and Auxiliary  
                   Ships.  
 5/79-11/81    CO CarDiv-6 (A7).  
 11/81-12/82    OP-95, Director Strike and Amphibious  
                   Warfare Division.

**Summary of Significant Career Events**

Rear Admiral Bryan W. Compton Jr., holder of the Navy Cross, six Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Bronze Star Medal, 19 Air Medals, three Navy Unit Commendations and one Navy Commendation Medal, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and was commissioned an Ensign in June 1951.

Following his first assignment aboard *USS SICILY*, he attended flight training and earned his wings as a Naval Aviator in May 1953. His first assignment as an aviator was with Antisubmarine Squadron TWENTY SEVEN, flying the Grumman Guardian from the flight decks of the aircraft carriers *USS KULA GULF* and *USS ANTIETAM*.

In February 1955, he reported to Attack Squadron THIRTY FIVE stationed at Cecil Field, Fla. In VA-35, operating from the aircraft carrier *USS TICONDEROGA* and flying the Skyraider, Admiral Compton served as landing signal officer and flight officer.

Following an assignment at the Naval Academy as an instructor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and as a student in jet transitional training at Olathe, Kan., the admiral (then lieutenant) was assigned to Attack Squadron SIXTY SIX as maintenance officer where he flew the A-4D Skyhawk aboard *USS INTREPID*. He was then assigned to the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif., as a student.

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### Summary of Significant Career Event continued

From July 1963 To December 1965, Admiral Compton served as ordnance officer on the nuclear powered carrier *USS ENTERPRISE*. After a brief tour with Attack Squadron SIXTY SIX aboard the aircraft carrier *USS AMERICA*, he reported to Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIXTY THREE as executive officer then commanding officer. His next major assignment, following one year as a student at the U.S. Naval War College, was as commanding officer of *USS EL PASO*, an amphibious cargo ship homeported in Norfolk, VA.

In July 1972, Admiral Compton became the first commanding officer of the nuclear powered aircraft carrier *USS NIMITZ*. He served there until August 1976 when he was transferred to Naval Sea Systems Command as Deputy Commander for Aircraft Carriers, Amphibious and Auxiliary Ships. He was promoted to Rear Admiral in April 1977 and assigned as Commander Carrier Group SIX in May 1979.

The admiral has earned an Associate of Science Degree from Marion Military Institute, located in his native state of Alabama; a Bachelor of Science Degree from the U.S. Naval Academy; and a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School.

Admiral Compton is married to the former Maxine Anderson of Millbrook Alabama. He is the father of four children, Bryan W. III, Mary, David and Eleanor. He is from Demopolis, Alabama.