



**John A. Lockard, Vice Admiral USN (Ret.)**  
"Spider"

Date of Designation: 25 February 1966

Dates of Active Duty: 17 June 1964 to 30 June 2000

Total Flight Hours: 3,644

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 751

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet VA/VFA: 3,287 Prop: 357

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: Nov. 1966 - Jun. 1967 VA-112 (A-4C), USS *Kitty Hawk*.

Vietnam: Nov. 1967 - Jun. 1968 VA-112 (A-4C), USS *Kitty Hawk*.

Vietnam: Jun. 1972 - Mar. 1973 VA-215 (A-7B), USS *Oriskany*.

Libya: Apr. 1986, USS *Coral Sea* (XO)

Total combat missions - 332

Aviation Commands:

CO, VA-25, Jul. 1980 - Oct. 1981

CO, VFA-125, Oct. 1983 - Dec. 1984

F/A-18 Program Manager, Aug. 1986 - Jun. 1990

Program Executive Officer (Tactical Aircraft), Jan. 1991 - Mar. 1995

Commander, Naval Air Systems Command, Mar. 1995 - Jun. 2000

Combat Awards:

Distinguished Flying Cross

2 Air Medals (30 Strike/Flight Awards)

**Duty Assignment Chronology**

6/64-2/66 NAS Pensacola, FL, Flight Training, NAVCAD VT-1 (T-34),



VT-7 NAS Meridian, MS (T-2A), Basic Flight Training

VT-4 NAS Pensacola, FL (T-2A), Gunnery and Carrier Quals

VT-23 NAS Kingsville, TX (F-9, TF-9), Advanced Flight Training.

3/66-7/66 VA-125, NAS Lemoore, CA (A-4 RAG).

7/66-7/68 VA-112, NAS Lemoore, USS *Kitty Hawk*, (Tonkin Gulf) Weapons Officer/ Flight Scheduler/ LSO (A-4C).

8/68-12/69 NAF China Lake, CA, Project Test Pilot (A-4, F-8, OV-10, U-3, C-210, C-47, C-117, C-131).

1/70-12/71 Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, BS Aeronautical Engineering (T-1A).

1/72-6/72 VA-125, NAS Lemoore, CA (A-7B RAG).

6/72-7/74 VA-215, NAS Lemoore, USS *Oriskany*, (Tonkin Gulf and Indian Ocean) Maintenance Officer (A-7B).

7/74-6/75 Naval War College, Newport, RI, Command and Staff.

6/75-5/78 Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, DC. F/A-18 Class Desk Office (T-28).

6/78-2/79 XO, VA-122, NAS Lemoore, CA (A-7E).

3/79-7/80 XO, VA-25, NAS Lemoore, CA, USS *Ranger* (WESTPAC) (A-7E).

7/80-10/81 CO, VA-25, NAS Lemoore, CA, USS *Ranger* (Indian Ocean) (A-7E).

10/81-10/82 COMNAVAIRPAC, San Diego, CA, Light Attack Training Officer (A-7E).

10/82-10/83 COMLATWINGPAC, Lemoore, CA, Fleet Introduction Team/PCO VFA-125 (F/A-18).

10/83-12/84 CO, VFA-125, NAS Lemoore, CA (F/A-18).

1/85-2/85 Surface Warfare Officer School, NS Newport, RI.

3/85-7/86 XO, USS *Coral Sea*, NAS Norfolk and Med. Deployment (F/A-18).

8/86-6/90 F/A-18 Program Manager, Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, DC (F/A-18).

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### Duty Assignment Chronology continued

- 6/90-1/91 Assistant Commander for Engineering, Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, DC (F/A-18, First Flag Tour).
- 1/91-3/95 Program Executive Officer (Tactical Aircraft), Washington, DC (Responsible for F-14, F/A-18, A-6, EA-6, E-2, air to air and air to ground weapons).
- 3/95-6/00 Commander, Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, DC and NAS Patuxent River, MD.
- 1 July 2000 Retired from active duty.



Following retirement from the Navy, employed by Boeing, Integrated Defense Systems. Served as Chief Engineer, VP for Business Development, Senior Vice President for Naval System responsible for all Boeing business with the Naval Service (F/A-18, EA-18, V-22, MMA, UHF Satellites, Harpoon and SLAM-ER) and now President, Precision Engagement and Mobility Systems responsible for all Boeing military aircraft and weapons for the Department of Defense and other international military sales .

Life Member Association of Naval Aviation; Trustee, Naval Aviation Museum Foundation; Chairman, Board of Directors Navy Federal Credit Union.

### **Summary of Significant Career Events**

- (1) Received the DFC as an Ensign on my first combat cruise after being hit by 37mm AAA fire during a mission over North Vietnam. Recovered a battle damaged A-4C in the barricade on USS *Kitty Hawk* (1st jet barricade on USS *Kitty Hawk*).
- (2) Completed three combat tours in Vietnam amassing 332 combat missions. (100 as an Ensign, 101 as a LTJG, 131 as a LT).
- (3) Won the Cruise Air Wing Carrier Landing Award for best carrier landing grades for the Indian Ocean cruise while serving in VA-215 aboard USS *Oriskany*, 1973/74 (A-7B).
- (4) VA-25 was recognized as best squadron for material readiness in COMLATWINGPAC following Indian Ocean deployment during my command tour.
- (5) Involved in every aspect of F/A-18 development, fleet introduction and improvement since contract award in 1975. Original member of the engineering design team, member of the fleet introduction team, Commanding Officer, VFA-125, XO, USS *Coral Sea* for F/A-18 first Med. deployment and first combat action. Program Manager during introduction of F/A-18C/D, night attack capability, enhanced performance engine and developed the F/A-18E/F concept.
- (6) As Program Executive Officer (Tactical Aircraft) developed the currently fielded carrier airwing capabilities including F/A-18E/F, Helmet Mounted Cueing System, AIM9X, JDAM, JSOW, EA-6B ICAP II, E-2C Advanced Systems.
- (7) Served five years and three months as Commander, Naval Air Systems Command (second longest tour behind RADM Moffitt—the first Commander).
- (8) Served as Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy (RD&A) for 8 months. Biggest achievement was getting CVN 77 approved for development (New reactor concept).