



**Richard J. O'Hanlon, RADM USN (Ret.)**  
 "Spanky"

Date of Designation: September 30, 1977

Dates of Active Duty: June 1976 – May 2011.

Total Flight Hours: 4,200

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed Wing: 887; Helo: 10

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 3,700; Prop: 475; Helo: 35; VA/VFA: 3,240; VT: 275

Combat Tours:

Afghanistan: Operation Enduring Freedom.  
 USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN-71)  
 Sep 2001- Apr 2002

Iraq: Operation Iraqi Freedom.  
 USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN-71)  
 Feb 2003-Apr 2003

Aviation Commands:

CO, VFA-37 Jul 92 – Nov 93  
 CO, USS *Sacramento* (AOE-1) Feb 97–Nov 98  
 CO, USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN-71) Feb 01-Jun 03  
 Commander, Strike Force Training Atlantic  
 Sept 05 – Sept 07  
 Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic  
 Jan 09 – Feb 11

Awards:

Distinguished Service Medal  
 Defense Superior Service Medal  
 Five Legions of Merit  
 Two Bronze Star Medals  
 Three Meritorious Service Medals  
 Three Navy Commendation Medals



**Duty Assignment Chronology**

- 07/72-06/76 US Naval Academy
- 07/76-09/77 Flight Training Pensacola, FL.  
(T-28B/C), Beeville, TX. (T-2C)
- 11/77-06/78 VA-174, NAS Cecil Field, FL (A-7E). Flt  
Rep Pilot
- 06/78-06/81 VA-46 (A-7E), NAS Cecil Field & USS *John  
F Kennedy* (CV-67). Two deployments.
- 07/81-06/82 US Naval Test Pilot School, Patuxent River,  
MD. (T-2, T-38, TA-7, S-3, P-3, OV-1, H-58,  
AH-1, T-33, F-4, F-106)
- 06/82-06/84 Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, MD.  
(FA-18, A-7, A-4, F-14, C-12, P-3, E-2)
- 10/84-11/86 COMCARGRU Three (Strike Operations).  
Two deployments.
- 12/86-09/87 VFA-106 (FA-18A). NAS Cecil Field, FL.  
Flt Rep Pilot
- 09/87-12/89 VFA-132 (FA-18A). NAS Cecil Field, FL.,  
MCAS Iwakuni, JP & USS *Coral Sea* (CV-  
43). Safety, Operations, Maintenance. Two  
deployments.
- 01/90-05/91 EA to Chief of Legislative Affairs,  
Washington, DC.
- 10/91-11/93 CO/XO, VFA-37, NAS Cecil Field, FL. &  
USS *John F Kennedy* (CV-67). One deploy-  
ment.
- 01/94-06/95 Nuclear Power Training, Orlando, FL. &  
Charleston, SC.
- 08/95-10/96 XO, USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN-70). Alameda,  
CA. One deployment.
- 02/97-01/99 CO, USS *Sacramento* (AOE-1). Bremerton,  
WA. One deployment.
- 02/99-10/00 COS, Naval Air Force Atlantic, Norfolk, VA.
- 03/01-06/03 CO, USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN-71)  
Norfolk, VA. Two combat deployments.
- 06/03-09/05 Commander, Standing Joint Force  
Headquarters, US Joint Forces Command,  
Norfolk, VA.

### Duty Assignment Chronology continued

09/05-09/07 Commander, Strike Force Training Atlantic, Norfolk, VA.  
09/07-12/08 Deputy Commander, Logistics and Training (N-4/7), US Fleet Forces Command, Norfolk, VA.  
02/09-02/11 Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic, Norfolk, VA.  
05/11 Retired from Active Duty  
09/11-08/20 COO of a charter air company in Long Island, NY, then a VP at Carnival Cruise Lines in Miami, FL, and finally a Director at Lockheed Martin Corporation.  
09/20-present Golf, travel, hiking, spoiling grandchildren. Making my bride of 44 years happy.

(11) With the Joint Forces Command Standing Joint Force HQ, deployed numerous times to Afghanistan, Djibuti and Iraq to plan combat and surveillance operations.

(12) Trained every deploying Atlantic Fleet CVN and LHD during tour as COM Strike Force Training Atlantic, now known as CARGRU Four.

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

(1) Married well above my station to a wonderful, beautiful, and patient woman. Father of five, Grandfather of four. I am a lucky man.

(2) Flight tested prototype and full scale development FA-18A's at Pax River.

(3) Engine testing in A-7E required proficiency in engine out landings at Edwards AFB.

(4) Test fired first HARM missile from FA-18 at China Lake.

(5) As CARGRU staffer, planned Bering Sea flight operations conducted in treacherous winter conditions.

(6) Deployed as a unit of MAG-15 to Iwakuni, Japan during the first deployment in DH FA-18A squadron (VFA-132)

(7) During 1989 deployment on USS *Coral Sea*, flew in support of short notice emergency airborne evacuation of US embassy in Lebanon.

(8) Assumed immediate command of VFA-37 when CO was lost in an aircraft mishap.

(9) With VFA-37, supported relief flights in embattled Bosnia-Herzegovina during the 1993 JFK cruise.

(10) As CO CVN71, deployed to North Arabian Sea days after 9/11/2001 to begin combat flight operations against the Taliban. Deployed in 2003 after a six month yard period with only two months of training and with a new Airwing to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. During two combat cruises, expended over 1.5 million pounds of ordnance.