



NAVCAD, Class 25-50 NAAS Whiting Field, April 1951

James E. Service, VADM, USN (Ret.)
 "Jim"

Date of Designation: 9 April 1952

Dates of Active Duty: November 1950 - July 1955;
 February 1957 - September 1987

Total Flight Hours: 4,485

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 505 Rotary: 12

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 3,000 Prop: 1,400 Helo: 85 VF/VA: 2,750
 VT: 560

Combat Tours:

Korea: VF-53 (F9F-5), Jan. 1953 - Jun. 1953;
 54 combat missions.
 Vietnam: VAP-61 (RA3B), Feb. 1966 - Nov. 1967;
 61 combat missions.
 USS *Ranger* (CVA-61), Jan. 1968 - Jun. 1968;
 Vietnam and Pueblo Incident.

Aviation Commands:

CO, VAP-62, Jun. 1969 - Oct. 1969.
 CO, VAH-123, Jun. 1970 - Feb. 1971.
 CO, USS *Sacramento* (AOE-1), Sep. 1973 - Apr. 1975.
 CO, USS *Independence* (CV-62), Jun. 1975 - Apr. 1977.
 Commander, Carrier Group EIGHT, Jun. 1980 - Jun. 1981.
 Commander, Battle Force SIXTH Fleet/CTF-60, Jun. 1981
 - Sep. 1982.
 President, U.S. Naval War College, Oct. 1982 - Jul. 1985
 Commander Naval Air Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Aug. 1985
 - Aug. 1987.



1986

Natalie

Combat Awards:

Distinguished Service Medal (Libya SU-22 Shootdown,
 Gulf of Sidra)
 3 Legion of Merit
 Bronze Star with combat "V" (Vietnam Operations)
 7 Air Medals
 Navy Commendation Medal with combat "V" (Korean
 Operations)

Duty Assignment Chronology

11/50-6/52 Flight training, All Weather flight school, Jet
 transition unit.
 7/52-10/54 Fighter Squadron Fifty Three (VF-53), NAS
 Miramar, Korea.
 11/54-7/55 ATU-800, NAS Corpus Christi, All Weather
 Flight Instructor.
 8/55-1/57 San Diego State College, Student.
 2/57-2/59 Attack Squadron One Fifty One (VA-151),
 NAS Alameda, Westpac.
 3/59-5/59 Catapult & Arresting Gear School, Naval
 Station Philadelphia.
 6/59-6/61 USS *Ticonderoga* (CVA-14), V-2 Division
 Officer.
 7/61-7/63 Naval Air Test Facility (SI), NAS Lakehurst,
 Project Test Pilot.
 8/63-6/65 U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey,
 CA, Student.
 7/65-1/66 Heavy Attack Squadron One Twenty Three
 (VAH-123), Student.
 2/66-11/67 Heavy Photographic Squadron Sixty One
 (VAP-61) Ops Officer, XO (combat reconnais-
 sance in Southeast Asia, Vietnam).
 1/68-4/69 USS *Ranger* (CVA-61), Assistant Air Officer.
 5/69-6/69 Heavy Attack Squadron One Two Three
 (VAH-123), Student.
 7/69-10/69 Heavy Photographic Squadron Sixty Two
 (VAP-62), C.O.
 11/69-1/71 Heavy Attack Squadron One Two Three
 (VAH-123), X.O., C.O.

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Duty Assignment Chronology continued.

6/71-6/72 USS *Independence* (CV-62), X.O.
7/72-7/73 U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, PA, Student.
9/73-4/75 USS *Sacramento* (AOE-1), Commanding Officer.
6/75-4/77 USS *Independence* (CV-62), Commanding Officer.
5/77-1/80 OPNAV Staff, Washington D. C., Executive Assistant & Senior Aide to the VCNO (OP-09A); Aviation Manpower and Training (OP-59), First Flag assignment
1/80-5/80 Nuclear Power Training Unit, Idaho Falls, ID (DUINS)
6/80-6/81 Commander, Carrier Group Eight (Indian Ocean OPS - hostage release)
7/81-9/82 Commander Battle Force Sixth Fleet (CTF-60), operations against Libya - shootdown of two SU-22 Libyan aircraft
10/82-7/85 President, U.S. Naval War College, Newport, R.I.
8/85-9/87 Commander, Naval Air Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet, NAS North Island, San Diego, California.

Personal & Post Retirement

- (1) Married to the former Natalie Harpst of Point Loma, San Diego, California. Two of three sons are Naval Aviators; the third runs his own software company in Hawaii.
- (2) Previously served 4 1/2 years as a Director of the Wood River Medical Center in Ketchum, Idaho. 1991-1995.
- (3) Currently on the Board of Directors of Sturm, Ruger Company, Inc.
- (4) A financial advisor for PGR Advisors - a San Jose, California consulting group.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) 1962 - Project pilot for Marine Corps Expeditionary Airfield development. first pilot to launch on CE-1 & CE-2 catapult systems. High energy arrested landing tests on various emergency arresting gears.
- (2) 1966 - 1967 Participated in tactics development of real-time infrared recce systems in RA3B aircraft in actual combat conditions in Vietnam.
- (3) 1981 - Planned and executed a missile-ex in Gulf of Sidra in August 1981 which resulted in the shootdown of two Libyan SU-22 fighters by TF-60 F-14s (A great day for the USA and Naval Aviation. A very bad day for Muhammar Quadafi).