



**Theodore R. Swartz, CDR USN (Ret.)**  
 “TR”, Call sign “Heavy”

Date of Designation: February 20, 1957.

Dates of Active Duty: April 13, 1954 - March 1, 1977

Total Flight Hours: 5,200

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 1,000

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: VA-76, May 1966 -Sept. 1967, CVA-31 (A-4)

Vietnam: VA-212 and CVW-5 Ops. Officer, Oct. 1967-  
 May 1969, CVA-31 (A-4)

Total 300+ combat missions

Aviation Commands:

CO, VF-161 (F-4N), March 1974 - June 1975

Combat Awards:

Silver Star

6 Distinguished Flying Crosses

7 Individual Air Medals

27 Strike Flight Awards

8 Navy Commendation Medals

**Duty Assignment Chronology**

- 4/54-9/55 Enlisted ET SN, USS *Bluegill* (SSK-242).
- 9/55-2/57 NAVCAD, Flight Training.
- 3/57-9/59 VF 41, NAS Oceana, VA. Division Officer, and LSO. CVA-11 (F3H).
- 10/59-3/64 VF 174, NAS Cecil Field, FL. Tactics Instructor and LSO (F-8).
- 4/64-5/66 CVW-3 LSO, CVA 60/Med Deployments (F-8, F-4, A-4).
- 5/66-9/67 VA-76, Department Head & LSO. CVA-31 WestPac deployment (A-4).



- 10/67-5/69 VA-212 and CVW-5 Operations Officer. CVA- 31, WestPac deployment (A-4).
- 6/69-6/70 RCVW 12 Staff VA Training Officer, NAS Miramar, CA.
- 1/72-2/73 VF-121, Instructor. NAS Miramar, CA (F-4).
- 3/73-6/75 VF-161, XO/CO aboard CVA-41, home ported in Yokosuka, Japan. WestPac (F-4).
- 7/75-3/77 CNAP Staff VF Training Officer, North Island, CA.
- 3/77 Retired from the U.S.Navy.
- 4/78-10/97 Air Combat Maneuvering Instrumentation Systems Program Manager/Director for Cubic Defense Systems, San Diego. Served various US, European and Far East customers.
- 10/97 Retired from the Defense Industry. Living in Poway, the “City in the country”, just north of San Diego.

**Family:** Married to CINC Home, Bernardine. Three children. One grandson, TRS III, call sign “Red Bull”.

**Summary of Significant Career Events**

- (1) 1955, aboard the USS *Bluegill* (SSK-242). Passing the GED exam to qualify for selection to the NAVCAD Program. The XO told me I wouldn’t be much of a sewer pipe sailor anyhow.
  - (2) 1959/1964. Flying the F-8 Crusader, the last of the Gunfighters, and gaining the tactical knowledge of, and flying with, some of the most professional and aggressive Fighter Pilots in the Fleet.
  - (3) 1966/1969. Flying the A-4 Skyhawk and gaining the warrior spirit, combat leadership, and air-to ground
- Continued -

Summary of Significant Career Events continued:

skills needed to take the air war to the enemy in Vietnam.

- (4) 1967. Credited with a MiG-17 kill on 1 May, over Kep Airfield, NVN.
- (5) 1971. Naval War College.



- (6) 1972/1973. CNO Professional Development Program. Masters degree program at San Diego State University.
- (7) 1973, September. Sailed under the Golden Gate in USS *Midway* for the Navy's first experiment in CVA/ Air wing Overseas Home porting, to be met by 10,000 demonstrators outside the gate at Yokosuka, Japan.
- (8) 1978/1997. Working as a defense contractor with US and various friendly foreign tactical aviation forces, to provide systems for real time and post flight air/ ground combat training and damage assessment.