



L. Irving Williams, Jr., Capt, USN (Ret.)
 “Irv”

Date of Designation: 23 July 1965 NA# V-22702

Dates of Active Duty: 18 January 1964 – 1 July 92

Total Flight Hours: 2,737

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 379

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 2,737 Prop: 160 VA: 2,432 VT: 292 Other: 173

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: VA-85, USS *Kitty Hawk*, Nov. 1966 – April 1967

POW: 24 April 1967 – 4 March 1973

Total Combat Missions: 62

Aviation Commands:

CO, VA-45, July 1982 - January 1984

CO, NAS Alameda, CA, June 1990 – June 1992

Combat Awards:

2 Silver Stars

1 Legion of Merit with “V”

1 Distinguished Flying Cross

2 Bronze Stars with “V”

2 Individual Air Medals

5 Strike/Flight Air Medals

2 Purple Hearts

2 Navy Commendation Medals with “V”

Duty Assignment Chronology

1/64-5/64 Pre-flight (Enlisted in NAO pipeline, moved to NAVCAD after Pre-flight).

5/64-7/65 Flight Training (T-34B, T-2A, F-9).

8/65-2/66 VA-42, A-6A FRP Training.

2/66-7/66 VA-75, USS *Independence*, Weapons Officer.



- 7/66-4/67 VA-85, USS *Kitty Hawk*, Line Division Officer, LSO in training.
- 4/67-3/73 POW North Vietnam.
- 3/73-9/73 Naval Hospital Jacksonville, FL.
- 9/73-2/74 VA-45, Jet Refresher Training.
- 2/74-8/74 VA-174, A-7E FRP Training.
- 8/74-12/76 VA-37, USS *Saratoga*, Safety, Admin, Maintenance Officers.
- 1/77-6/78 Univ of N Florida, BA w/ highest distinction Political Science.
- 7/78-8/80 VA-174, Instructor, Maint, OPS, XO
- 8/80-6/81 Student Naval War College, Newport
- 7/81-1/84 VA-45, XO/CO.
- 1/84-3/84 Navigator Training.
- 4/84-7/86 Navigator, USS *Saratoga* (CV-60).
- 7/86-5/90 OP-05 Pentagon (2 yrs Adversary Aircraft Mgr, 1 yr Fighter Branch Head, 1 yr Attack Branch Head).
- 6/90-6/92 Commanding Officer, NAS Alameda CA.
- 7/92 Retired from Active Duty.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) DFC on 4th combat mission, Alpha strike on vehicle depot in SW Hanoi.
- (2) Shot down and captured at Kep Airfield on first strike against any airfield in NVN. POW 2,142 days.
- (3) Winner of CVW-3 Bombing Derby during air wing deployment to MCAS Yuma in 1975.
- (4) Among Top Ten Tailhookers USS *Saratoga* Med deployment 1976.
- (5) Navigator USS *Saratoga* for night transit of Suez Canal and going pier side in Diego Garcia (later deemed too risky and not allowed again).
- (6) Oversight for delivery of 26 new F-16 adversary aircraft from General Dynamics to US Navy.

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Summary of Significant Career Events continued

- (7) After retirement, one of three trustees of Stumpf Defense Fund est'd in 1993 to defend the unjustly accused leader of Blue Angels against the "lynch mob" after Hook '91. Honored to write the check to his successful lawyers on behalf of the hundreds of Naval Aviators and supporters who contributed.