



Dad - Frank "Mugsy" Foley

1991

## Steve Foley, Captain, USN, (Ret.) "Axel"

Hometown: Charlestown, Massachusetts; of Battle of Bunker Hill fame; USS Constitution "Old Ironsides."

### School and College Career:

1980 Graduate of Thayer Academy (HS), onward to Hamilton College, upstate New York, BA 1984. Masters, U.S. Naval War College, 2004

Dates of Active Duty: October 1984 – December 2010

### Date Commissioned/Source:

February 1985 / AOCS Pensacola, FL.

Date of Designation: September 1986, Meridian, MS

Total Flight Hours: 6,900

Jet: 6,850 Prop: 75

FA-18A/C/E/F, F16N, A4E/F/M, TA4J, T2C, T34C

Carrier/Ship Landings: 880

### Combat Tours:

VFA-25 (FA-18C) Operation Southern Watch: CVN-70, 07/1996 to 09/1996, Arabian Sea

VFA-25 (FA-18C) Operation Southern Watch: CVN-72, 07/1998 to 09/1998, Arabian Gulf

VFA-82 (FA-18C) Operation Enduring Freedom: CVN-71, 10/2001 to 03/2002, N Arabian Sea

Combat Missions: 120

### Aviation Commands:

VFA-82: 03/2002 to 04/2003

NFDS (Blue Angels): 11/2004 to 11/2006

Strike Fighter Wing Pacific: 12/2008 to 10/2010



Maureen

2024

### Awards:

Legion of Merit: (2)

Meritorious Service Medal: (1)

Individual Air Medal Combat Distinguishing Device (1)

Strike Flight Air Medals (6)

Navy Commendation Medal (4) (Combat Distinguishing Device)

Navy Achievement Medal (2)

CNAL Strike Fighter Wing Leadership Award 2002- 2003

CNAP Micheal Hoff Attack Aviator of the Year 1998

Naval War College Navy League Honor Graduate 2003

## **Duty Assignment Chronology**

10/84-02/85	Aviation Officer Candidate (AOCS)
03/85-09/86	VT-6, VT-9. VT-7 (T-34C, T-2C, TA4J), Student Naval Aviator
10/86-11/88	VT-7 SERGRAD (TA-4J)
12/88-08/89	VFA-125, Lemoore, CA (FA-18A/B/C) Replacement Pilot
08/89-04/92	VFA-25, Lemoore, CA (FA-18C), JO Pilot, Training Officer
04/92-06/95	TOPGUN Miramar, CA, (A-4, F-16N, FA-18C), Instructor Pilot, Training Officer
07/95-12/95	Strike Fighter Weapons School Pacific, Lemoore, CA (FA-18C), Instructor
01/96-10/98	VFA-25, Lemoore, CA (FA-18C), Department Head
11/98-11/00	NFWS TOPGUN Fallon, NV, (FA-18A, FA-18C), Instructor Pilot, TG Div Hd
11/00-07/03	VFA-82 Beaufort, SC (FA-18C), Executive Officer and Commanding Officer
08/03-09/04	Naval War College, Newport RI; Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, VA
09/04-11-06	Blue Angels, Pensacola, FL, (FA-18A) Flight Leader, Commanding Officer
12/06-12/10	Strike Fighter Wing Pacific, Lemoore, CA Deputy Commodore, Commodore

## Summary of Significant Career Events

(1) Attended Aviation Officer Candidate School, Class 05-85. GYSGT Washington and his band of MARINE DIs were no joke! So grateful for their leadership.

(2) My first flight in the Navy went exactly as my T-34C IP described: "You'll think you have enough rudder in on brake release / takeoff roll....you won't, and I'll say "I've got the Controls...to which you will say, "You've got the Controls, Sir." Spot on.

(3) After completing T-2 and A-4 training in Meridian, MS I received IP orders as a SERGRAD in VT-7. Rented a house on the GC, bought a boat, and enjoyed as many NAVY TRAINING X-CTRY flights as humanly possible. The veteran IPs taught us a lot, and prepared us better for the Fleet... BZ and many thanks MAC, HOOTER, BEEF, WOODY, ICE, BICK & BUBBA. And to our senior JOs Brett Pops Batchelder, Craig Animal Williams, George Mason, who led the way.

(4) Thrilled to get FA-18 orders to Lemoore – Steve Warden Davis, Dan Redbone Martin, Jim Red Dog Collins, Bob Woody Wood, Ernie Shine Wattam got us knucklehead nuggets through the VFA 125 RAG. Forever grateful!

(5) Stood on the shoulders of absolute giants Skipper Dan Gabby Gabriel and XO/CO Greg Shifty Peairs, VFA 25 Fist of the Fleet JO Tour. More giants, Senior JOs Dan Dix Dixon, Carrol Lex Lefon, Chuck Sterno Sternberg kept us newbies in line. After painting the NAS CUBI front gate A-4 in fine Fisty colors & logos (CO NAS Cubi NOT happy), we set off for what became operations in support of Operation Desert Shield. Broke the fuel probe off my trusty Hornet refueling on the IRON MAIDEN during our initial CAP sorties, earned a new callsign for a few weeks for that buffoonery. CAG Spook Yakely kept us fired up. Throughout that JO tour, we took delivery of two sets of brand-new FA-18Cs, Lot 11s in late 89, and Lot 14s in '91, thank you McDonnell Douglas / Boeing. Swapped the Lot 11's for Lot 14s during swap-ex, USS Independence for USS Midway. We all bagged some Midway traps before she became a museum, epic combat ship, tremendous opportunity. Wound down the tour with warrior CO Carl Slick Simmons at the helm, thank you Slick.

(6) Reported to TOPGUN as an instructor at NAS Miramar flying A-4s, F-16Ns, and FA-18s. Remarkable opportunity throughout the tour, we JOs were the beneficiaries of tremendous naval aviation leaders. XO Rolland Dawg Thompson led the way as CNAP Ops Jerry Hook Singleton got us in the CNAP door to pitch ACTC-SFTI-SFWT to the Air Boss. Air Boss gave the program a GO, and significantly improved warfighting training for the decades ahead. Air Combat Training Continuum, Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor, Strike Fighter Weapons & Tactics programs became game changer for us all. Right place, right time for us, we were fortunate young guns. Thanks Shooter, Pager, Kato, Slammer, Ice, Trim, Rooster, Clete, Lurch and all the Team. And a big thanks for the USAF Weapons School – with their permis-

sion, we leveraged all aspects of their then superior F-15C and F-16C training model.

(7) Joined the Strike Fighter Weapons School Lemoore team for Advanced Tactics & Training Program leading up to the DH Tour in Lemoore. CO Notso Swift, XO Buck set the conditions for success. USAF F-15C driver Cheese led the program, and built the syllabus, introducing the advanced tactics flight & training syllabus to SFWP fleet squadrons, furthering air combat power projection. Nice work Cheese, and the entire SFWP Team.

(8) DH Tour, Lemoore CA, VFA 25. Another giant Skipper Crotch Welch paved the way toward a couple of VFA 25 Battle Es, and a Golden Wrench. Two combat deployments enforcing the no-fly zone for Operation Southern Watch. We were flying our butts off, and hungry for live fire yet not a single shot fired, nor ordnance dropped...Eeesh. Thanks Skipper Crotch, Skipper Boog, XO Smurf & CAG Lobster Fitzgerald for the inspirational leadership. Great ride with fellow DHs Shodog, Buggs, Puke, Dice.

(9) TG Fallon Highlights

(10) CO/XO VFA 82 highlights

(11) Blues highlights

(12) SFWP Highlights

## Post Military Work

(1) Joined Check-6 International in 2010. Founded by navy fighter pilot Brian Bru Brurud, and led by then CEO, navy and air force fighter pilot Yarema Yarko Sos, Check-6 provided consulting services in organizational leadership, operational risk management, and human performance. Great team, still doing great work. Thanks for the opportunity Bru, Yarko, Migs, Burner and team.

(2) Pivoted to Solairus Aviation, North Bay CA. Founded by aviation enthusiast and unrivaled aviation entrepreneur Dan Drohan, Solairus' exclusive management services optimize the business aviation ownership experience for over 300 clients. Thanks, DD, for creating a home for us at Solairus.

## Association Membership Boards

(1) Blue Angels Foundation Board

(2) TOPGUN Navy Fighter Weapons School Association Board

(3) Lifetime Member Blue Angels Association

(4) Lifetime Member TOPGUN Association

(5) Lifetime Member TAILHOOK Association and old.

## **Personal**

(1) My wife Maureen has been a tremendous partner since we met in April '90, and married in May '95. She's been the bedrock for our Family, as we raised son Patrick (25) and daughter Ella (17). "Reenie" proved an extraordinary navy wife, and has been our family's guiding light.

(2) Our family enjoys golfing, boating, skiing, and all outdoor recreation in and around the west coast mountains and coast.