



1941

William R. Pittman, Captain, USN (Ret.)
 "Bill"

Date of Designation: 18 August 1941 NA # 8838

Dates of Active Duty: 1 April 1941 - 1 January 1967

Total Flight Hours: 6,325

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 256

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 550 Prop: 5,775 VF/VA: 5,665
 VR/VP: 110 Other: 350 (Civilian owned aircraft)

Combat Tours:

WW II: VS-6 and VB-6 (SBD's), USS *Enterprise* (CV-6), June 4-6, 1942. Battle of Midway - 4 missions.
 VB-6 (SBD's), USS *Enterprise*, 1942. Guadalcanal - 8 strike missions.
 VB-6, (SBD's). Shorebased Guadalcanal with the Marines, 1942 - 25 strike missions.
 VB-6 (SBD's), USS *Enterprise*, 1942. Battle of Eastern Solomons.
 Korea: VF-53 (F4U), 1950, USS *Valley Forge* (CVA-45). - 52 missions

Aviation Commands:

CO, VF-174, June 1949 - January 1950.
 CO, VF-53, January 1950 - January 1951.
 CO, Naval Station Anacostia, Washington, D.C. , later named the Naval Air Facility, Andrews AFB, October 1963 - December 1966.

Combat Awards:

Navy Cross
 3 Distinguished Flying Crosses
 9 Air Medals



1966

Duty Assignment Chronology

1940-1941 Flight Training, Pensacola and Jacksonville.
 9/41-1/43 VS-6/VB-6 (SBD's), USS *Enterprise*(CV-6).
 1/43-5/44 NAS Datona Beach, FL., Flight Instructor in SBDs and F4Fs.
 5/44-5/45 NAS Deland, FL. Landing Signal Officer (LSO) and VF Instructor (F4F).
 7/45-11/45 USS *Cabot* (CVL-28). V-1 Division Officer and LSO.
 11/45-2/46 USS *Commencement Bay* (CVE-105). Assistant Air Officer and LSO.
 3/46-6/47 NATB Corpus Christi, TX. XO of the Cadet Regiment.
 6/47-4/48 General Line School - Student.
 6/48-6/49 XO, VA-134 (F4U), USS *Tarawa* (CVA-40).
 6/49-1/50 CO, VA-174 (F4U), USS *Midway* (CVA-41).
 1/50-1/51 CO, VF-53 on USS *Valley Forge* (CVA-45).
 2/51-6/53 CNO (OP-54), Single Engine Assignment Officer.
 8/53-9/54 USS *Oriskany* (CVA-34), Navigator.
 10/54-7/56 COMFAIR Hawaii Staff, Training Officer.
 8/56-7/57 Naval War College, Newport, RI. - Student.
 7/57-12/58 CNO (OP-504).
 12/58-7/60 Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Personnel and Reserve Affairs) - Aide.
 7/60-10/63 CINCUSNAVEUR Staff.
 10/63-12/66 CO, Naval Air Facility, Washington, D. C.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) Flew wing on LT McClusky who led the flight at Midway. I was an excited new Ensign with about 325 hours. Flew SBD's.
- (2) As a LCDR and Commanding Officer of an F4U squadron, led the first flight into North Korea from the USS *Valley Forge* (CVA-45).
- (3) Was assigned duty as Single Engine Assignment Officer in CNO (OP-54) and was disliked as I had to send pilots to fight in Korea.