



**William Mason Russell, Captain, USN (Ret.)**  
"Bill"

Date of Designation: 9 December 1949 NA # V-693

Dates of Active Duty: July 1943 - July 1976.

Total Flight Hours: 9,000

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 400

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 5,800 Prop: 1,400 VF/VA: 5,800 VR/VP: 100

Other (Civilian glider & powered aircraft): 1,800

Combat Tours:

Korea: VF-22, *Lake Champlain* (6/53 - 7/53) - 25 Missions

Aviation Commands:

CO, VF-211, June 1962 - July 1963.

Combat Awards:

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star

2 Air Medals

**Duty Assignment Chronology**

- 7/43-6/46 U. S. Naval Academy - Midshipman from Texas.
- 1946-1948 USS *Leyte* (CV-32), Junior Officer in various departments.
- 1948-1949 Student Naval Aviator.
- 1950-1952 Civilian. Assistant Production Manager, Russell-Newman Mfg. Co.  
Flew F4U Corsairs and FH-1 Phantoms in the Naval Reserve.
- 1952-1955 VF-22 squadron pilot. Flew F2H-2 Banshees.
- 1955-1958 Project Test Pilot of various carrier aircraft at NATC Patuxent River, MD.



- 1958-1960 Fighter & Ground Training Officer of VF-124. Flew F8U Crusaders.
- 1960-1961 Naval War College.
- 1961-1963 XO and CO of VF-211, flew F8U Crusaders.
- 1963-1964 Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA.
- 1964-1965 Personal Aide to Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
- 1966-1967 Air Officer and Navigator of USS *Kitty Hawk* (CVA-63).
- 1967-1969 ODDR&E, Office of Secretary of Defense.
- 1969-1970 Industrial College of the Armed Forces.
- 8/70-11/71 CO, USS *Camden* (AOE-2).
- 1972-1973 ACOS Operations, COMSEVENTHFLT.
- 1973-1976 Deputy Commander, NAVAIRTESTCEN.

**Summary of Significant Career Events**

Active Duty:

(1) While assigned to the Armament Test Division of the Naval Air Test Center, performed developmental flight testing of the below listed aircraft.

- F7U-3
- FJ-4
- A4D-1
- F11F-1
- F3H-2
- F8U-1
- F4D

Post Active Duty

- Built two Schroder HP-1815 Meter Racing Sailplanes.
- Built SH-2 Glashir aircraft.
- Built LC-20 Lancair aircraft.