



**William A. Schroeder, Jr., Captain, USN (Ret.)**  
 “Tank”

Date of Designation: 16 January 1943

Dates of Active Duty: 5 May 1942 - 1 July 1972

Total Flight Hours: 3,800

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 400

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 800 Prop: 3,000 VF/VA: 3,500

Combat Tours:

WW II: USS *Yorktown*, Tarawa & Gilbert Islands, Oct. 1943 - Feb. 1944.

WW II: VF-1, Marianas & Bonin Islands campaigns, May 1944 - Aug. 1944. - 200 missions.

Korea: XO, VF-191, USS *Princeton*, Sep. 1952 - Jan. 1953 - 200 missions.

Aviation Commands:

CO, VA-86 (A4D), Jun 1957 - Apr. 1959. Med cruise USS *Randolph*.

CO, VX-5 (A4, F4, AD), Jun. 1961 - Jan. 1963. Air Development Projects.

CO, NAS Oceana, VA., Dec. 1968 - Sep. 1970. Major command.

Combat Awards:

2 Legion of Merit (Wash. D.C. tours 1965-68 & 1970-72. OPNAV/AIRSYSCOM).

3 Distinguished Flying Crosses (2-WW II, 1 Korea)

7 Air Medals (WWII/Korea)

### Duty Assignment Chronology

5/42-1/43 Flight Training, Pensacola, FL.  
 1/43-3/43 Advanced Training (Fighters - F2A), Opa Locka, FL.



5/43-8/44 VF-1 (Tarawa Atoll & USS *Yorktown* - TF-58 Operations).  
 8/44-1/45 VF-8 (Leader VF Replacement Team Training), Datona Beach, FL.  
 2/45-7/45 VF-100 (VF Training, El Centro, CA.), Los Alamitos, CA.  
 8/45-11/45 VF-32, USS *Cabot*. Flight operations in Yellow Sea, China.  
 12/45-12/47 Training Command, Corpus Christi, TX., (Chief Flight Instructor).  
 1/48-12/49 VF-31, NAS Quonset Point, R.I., and USS *Kearsarge*. Med cruise.  
 1/50-10/51 Tulane University, New Orleans, LA. (Holloway Plan).  
 11/51-1/53 XO, VF-191. Moffett Field, CA. (Korean operations, USS *Princeton*).  
 1/53-3/54 VX-5, Moffett Field, CA. (Project Pilot).  
 3/54-10/54 General Line School, Monterey, CA. (Student).  
 10/54-8/56 NAVCAD Procurement Officer, NAS New Orleans, LA.  
 8/56-6/57 Naval War College, Newport, R.I. (Student).  
 7/57-4/59 CO, VA-86, NAS Oceana, VA. (Med cruise, USS *Randolph*).  
 5/59-6/60 Air Boss, USS *Bon Homme Richard* (Pac cruise).  
 6/60-6/61 U. S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA. (MS degree in Management Sciences).  
 6/61-1/63 CO, VX-5, NAS China Lake, CA.  
 1/63-7/65 COMNAVAIRLANT Staff (Aviation Maintenance Officer).  
 7/65-12/68 OPNAV, Pentagon (OP-05C Comptroller).  
 12/68-9/70 CO, NAS Oceana, VA.  
 9/70-7/72 NAVAIRSYSCOM (Comptroller).  
 7/72 Retired from active duty.

### Summary of Significant Career Events

(1) Early jet pilot. First flight in FH-1 at Quonset Point, R.I., October 1948.

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- (2) As Chief Flight Instructor in Corpus Christi training squadron, conducted controlled study to phase out N3N as a primary training plane in 1946.
- (3) As VX-5 project pilot in 1953, participated in test/development effort related to first use of nuclear weapons on naval aircraft.
- (4) As CO, VA-86, among first to deploy A4D with full nuclear weapons delivery capability. USS *Randolph* Med. Cruise 1958-59.
- (5) As CO, VA-86, used first loft delivery tactics and conducted projects in night in-flight refueling techniques.
- (6) As CO, VX-5, conducted numerous projects to marry new "eye" series weapons to Navy carrier aircraft, developing delivery tactics, and write pilots hand books. 1961-63.
- (7) As a project while on the staff of COMNAVAIRLANT in 1963-65, I was responsible for the introduction of the new 3M (aviation maintenance management system) in the Atlantic Fleet.
- (8) In 5 years of Washington, D. C. duty (3 in OPNAV and 2 in AIRSYSCOM) I was assigned as Comptroller of the Naval Aviation Budget (OP-05/NAVAIR). As such, I was responsible for briefings throughout the Navy Department and the Congress.
- (9) Conducted and taught at a series of seminars related to project management and budget planning during Washington tours.