



**John A. Lockard, Vice Admiral USN (Ret.)**  
"Spider"

Date of Designation: 25 February 1966

Dates of Active Duty: 17 June 1964 to 30 June 2000

Total Flight Hours: 3,644

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 751

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet VA/VFA: 3,287 Prop: 357

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: Nov. 1966 - Jun. 1967 VA-112 (A-4C), USS *Kitty Hawk*.

Vietnam: Nov. 1967 - Jun. 1968 VA-112 (A-4C), USS *Kitty Hawk*.

Vietnam: Jun. 1972 - Mar. 1973 VA-215 (A-7B), USS *Oriskany*.

Libya: Apr. 1986, USS *Coral Sea* (XO)

Total combat missions - 332

Aviation Commands:

CO, VA-25, Jul. 1980 - Oct. 1981

CO, VFA-125, Oct. 1983 - Dec. 1984

F/A-18 Program Manager, Aug. 1986 - Jun. 1990

Program Executive Officer (Tactical Aircraft), Jan. 1991 - Mar. 1995

Commander, Naval Air Systems Command, Mar. 1995 - Jun. 2000

Combat Awards:

Distinguished Flying Cross

2 Air Medals (30 Strike/Flight Awards)

### **Duty Assignment Chronology**

6/64-2/66 NAS Pensacola, FL, Flight Training, NAVCAD VT-1 (T-34),



VT-7 NAS Meridian, MS (T-2A), Basic Flight Training

VT-4 NAS Pensacola, FL (T-2A), Gunnery and Carrier Quals

VT-23 NAS Kingsville, TX (F-9, TF-9), Advanced Flight Training.

3/66-7/66 VA-125, NAS Lemoore, CA (A-4 RAG).

7/66-7/68 VA-112, NAS Lemoore, USS *Kitty Hawk*, (Tonkin Gulf) Weapons Officer/ Flight Scheduler/ LSO (A-4C).

8/68-12/69 NAF China Lake, CA, Project Test Pilot (A-4, F-8, OV-10, U-3, C-210, C-47, C-117, C-131).

1/70-12/71 Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, BS Aeronautical Engineering (T-1A).

1/72-6/72 VA-125, NAS Lemoore, CA (A-7B RAG).

6/72-7/74 VA-215, NAS Lemoore, USS *Oriskany*, (Tonkin Gulf and Indian Ocean) Maintenance Officer (A-7B).

7/74-6/75 Naval War College, Newport, RI, Command and Staff.

6/75-5/78 Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, DC. F/A-18 Class Desk Office (T-28).

6/78-2/79 XO, VA-122, NAS Lemoore, CA (A-7E).

3/79-7/80 XO, VA-25, NAS Lemoore, CA, USS *Ranger* (WESTPAC) (A-7E).

7/80-10/81 CO, VA-25, NAS Lemoore, CA, USS *Ranger* (Indian Ocean) (A-7E).

10/81-10/82 COMNAVAIRPAC, San Diego, CA, Light Attack Training Officer (A-7E).

10/82-10/83 COMLATWINGPAC, Lemoore, CA, Fleet Introduction Team/PCO VFA-125 (F/A-18).

10/83-12/84 CO, VFA-125, NAS Lemoore, CA (F/A-18).

1/85-2/85 Surface Warfare Officer School, NS Newport, RI.

3/85-7/86 XO, USS *Coral Sea*, NAS Norfolk and Med. Deployment (F/A-18).

8/86-6/90 F/A-18 Program Manager, Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, DC (F/A-18).

- Continued -

### Duty Assignment Chronology continued

- 6/90-1/91 Assistant Commander for Engineering, Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, DC (F/A-18, First Flag Tour).
- 1/91-3/95 Program Executive Officer (Tactical Aircraft), Washington, DC (Responsible for F-14, F/A-18, A-6, EA-6, E-2, air to air and air to ground weapons).
- 3/95-6/00 Commander, Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, DC and NAS Patuxent River, MD.
- 1 July 2000 Retired from active duty.



Following retirement from the Navy, employed by Boeing, Integrated Defense Systems. Served as Chief Engineer; VP for Business Development; Senior Vice President for Naval Systems responsible for all Boeing business with the Naval Service (F/A-18, EA-18, V-22, MMA, UHF Satellites, Harpoon and SLAM-ER); President, Precision Engagement and Mobility Systems responsible for all Boeing military aircraft and weapons for the Department of Defense and other international military sales; and retired after serving as Chief Operating Officer and Deputy to the CEO of Boeing, Integrated Defense System at the end of 2009.

Life Member, Association of Naval Aviation; Former Trustee, Naval Aviation Museum Foundation; Former Member of the Board of Directors of Naval Institute and Former Chairman, Board of Directors Navy Federal Credit Union 1994 to 2023.

### **Summary of Significant Career Events**

- (1) Received the DFC as an Ensign on my first combat cruise after being hit by 37mm AAA fire during a mission over North Vietnam. Recovered a battled damaged A-4C in the barricade on USS *Kitty Hawk* (1st jet barricade on USS *Kitty Hawk*).
- (2) Completed three combat tours in Vietnam amassing 332 combat missions. (100 as an Ensign, 101 as a LTJG, 131 as a LT).
- (3) Won the Cruise Air Wing Carrier Landing Award for best carrier landing grades for the Indian Ocean cruise while serving in VA-215 aboard USS *Oriskany*, 1973/74 (A-7B).
- (4) VA-25 was recognized as best squadron for material readiness in COMLATWINGPAC following Indian Ocean deployment during my command tour.
- (5) Involved in every aspect of F/A-18 development, fleet introduction and improvement since contract award in 1975. Original member of the engineering design team, member of the fleet introduction team, Commanding Officer, VFA-125, XO, USS *Coral Sea* for F/A-18 first Med. deployment and first combat action. Program Manager during introduction of F/A-18C/D, night attack capability, enhanced performance engine and developed the F/A-18E/F concept.
- (6) As Program Executive Officer (Tactical Aircraft) developed the currently fielded carrier airwing capabilities including F/A-18E/F, Helmet Mounted Cueing System, AIM9X, JDAM, JSOW, EA-6B ICAP II, E-2C Advanced Systems.
- (7) Served five years and three months as Commander, Naval Air Systems Command (second longest tour behind RADM Moffitt—the first Commander).
- (8) Served as Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy (RD&A) for 8 months. Biggest achievement was getting CVN 77 approved for development (New reactor concept).