



Rolland C. Thompson, Captain, USN (Ret.)
 “Dawg”

Date of Designation: Naval Aviator - August 1980
 Army Aviator - August 1974 (age 19)

Dates of Active Duty: 8 July 1973 – 1 November 2003.

Total Flight Hours: 7500 with over 4000 F/A-18 hours

Carrier Landings: 1203

Aircraft flown: A-4, A-7, F-14, F-16N, F/A-18, F-5, S-3, AH-1, OH-58, UH-1, H-60, MIG 17/21/29.

Aviation Commands:

CO Strike Fighter Squadron Ninety Seven
 CO Naval Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN)
 Commander, Carrier Air Wing Nine

Awards:

Defense Superior Service Medal
 Legion of Merit, three awards
 Meritorious Service Medal, four awards
 Air Medal, 8 awards with V device for Valor
 Navy Commendation Medal, 5 awards with V device for Valor
 Army Commendation Medal

Education:

Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics; Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.
 Master of Science in National Security Strategy; National War College.
 Master of Business Administration; University of Nebraska.

Duty Assignment Chronology

08/73-09/74 Flight training, Warrant Officer Flight training, Fort Rucker AL.



09/74-08/77 Cobra Gunship Pilot, D Troop, 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC.
 08/77-08/78 Light Observation Helicopter pilot, 47th Infantry Division, Minnesota National Guard; Fort Snelling, MN.
 08/78-03/79 Aviation Officer Candidate; Top graduate, Regimental Commander. Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL.
 03/79-08/80 Naval Aviator Flight Training, VT-6 and VT-22, Naval Air Station Kingsville TX.
 08/80-06/81 A-7 pilot training, Attack Squadron 122, Naval Air Station Lemoore, CA.
 06/81-07/84 Pilot, Attack Squadron 97, aboard *USS Coral Sea*.
 07/84-09/87 F/A-18 Instructor pilot, Strike Fighter Training Squadron 125, Naval Air Station Lemoore, CA. (F/A-18 Airshow demo pilot).
 09/87-12/87 Student, Navy Fighter Weapons School (Topgun), Naval Air Station Miramar CA.
 12/87-11/88 Weapons Tactics Instructor, Strike Fighter Squadron 161, aboard *USS Constellation*.
 11/88-06/91 Department Head Strike Fighter Squadron One Ninety Two aboard *USS Midway*, forward deployed to Atsugi Japan. Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield.
 06/91-06/92 F/A-18 Requirements Officer, Commander Naval Air Forces Staff, Naval Air Station North Island, CA.
 06/92-12/93 Instructor Pilot and Executive Officer, Navy Fighter Weapons School (Topgun), Naval Air Station Miramar, CA.
 12/93-01/96 Executive Officer/Commanding Officer Strike Fighter Squadron 97, aboard *USS Kitty Hawk*.
 02/96-07/96 Commanding Officer Topgun, Naval Air Station Miramar, CA.
 07/96-08/97 Director of Training and Standardization, Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center, Naval Air Station Fallon, NV.

Duty Assignment Chronology continued

- 08/97-08/98 Student, National War College, Fort McNair, Washington DC.
- 08/98-08/99 Deputy Director for C-in-C Liaison, Navy Staff; Pentagon, Washington, DC.
- 08/99-02/02 Deputy Commander/Commander, Carrier Air Wing Nine. Aboard *USS John C. Stennis*. Deployments for Operation Southern Watch and Operation Enduring Freedom. (Strike Warfare Commander for OEF).
- 02/02-10/03 Executive Assistant to the Commander, United States Strategic Command. Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, NE.

Post Navy Employment

- 11/03-01/06 Ocean Systems Engineering; working for two great Americans; Smiles Bucchi and Pat Moneymaker.
- 01/06-Present Founder and CEO of Tactical Air Support Inc. Carrying on the passion!
- 03/17-Present Topgun Association Board of Directors

Personal

Dawg and Angela currently reside in Leonardtown, MD.