



**Thomas C. Watson Jr., RADM USN (Ret.)**  
 "Tom"

Date of Designation: 4 October 1955      NA# V-8065

Dates of Active Duty: 4 June 1954 -1 December 1982

Total Flight Hours: 4,000+

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 890+

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 2,900 Prop: 2,000 VF/VA: 4,940  
 Rotary: 50 VT: 185

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: CVW-9 CAG Ops Officer, 9/66-7/67 USS *Enterprise* (A-4C)  
 Vietnam: CAG, CVW-9, 5/72-6/72 USS *Constellation* (A-4, A-6, F-4, SH-3)  
 Vietnam: CAG, CVW-9, 2/73-5/73 USS *Constellation* (A-4, A-6, F-4, SH-3)  
 Total Combat Missions: 75

Aviation Commands:

CO, VA-81, 6/70-2/72 (A-4E)  
 CAG, Carrier Air Wing 9, 2/72-5/73 (A-4, A-6, F-4, SH-3)  
 Commander, Light Attack Wing One, 8/73-7/75 (A-4, TA-4, A-7B/C/E, S-3)  
 CO, USS *Independence*, 9/78-6/80 (A-7, S-3, SH-3)

Combat Awards:

2 Distinguished Flying Crosses  
 Bronze Star w/Combat "V"  
 7 Air Medals



**Duty Assignment Chronology**

9/54-10/55 Flight Training.  
 11/55-6/59 VA-196, USS *Lexington*, USS *Ticonderoga*, USS *Bennington*, Fleet Air Gunnery Unit, El Centro (AD, F2H).  
 7/59-9/60 COMFAIR San Diego, Com NABS 11/12. Flag Lt. (SNB, F9F, T-28).  
 9/60-6/62 U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA. Weapons Systems (T-2J, T-28, SNB).  
 6/62-1/64 VX-5 China Lake, CA. (A-4, A-1, O-1C, F-4, F-9).  
 2/64-5/64 Aerospace Safety School, USC, Los Angeles, CA.  
 6/64-2/65 VA-86, USS *Independence* (A-4E).  
 2/65-8/66 VA-64, USS *America* (A-4C).  
 9/66-7/67 CVW-9, USS *Enterprise* (A-4C).  
 8/67-4/68 Armed Forces Staff College, Washington, DC.  
 4/68-2/69 Naval Aviation Safety Center, Norfolk, VA.  
 2/69-2/70 VA-64, USS *Independence* (A-4C).  
 2/70-6/70 VA-174 (A-7A/B/C/E).  
 6/70-2/72 VA-81, USS *Forrestal* (A-4E).  
 5/72-7/73 CVW-9, USS *Constellation* (A-4, A-6, F-4, SH-3).  
 8/73-7/75 Commander, Light Attack Wing One (A-4, TA-4, A-7B/C/E, S-3).  
 8/75-8/76 OPNAV OP-05A.  
 8/76-4/77 SOSMRC, Arco, ID.  
 5/77-7/78 CO, USS *Truckee* (AO-47).  
 7/78-5/80 CO, USS *Independence* (CV-62) (A-7, S-3, SH-3).  
 5/80-12/82 Joint Chiefs of Staff, J-33, Pentagon.  
 12/1/82 Retired from active duty.