



Gregory C. Woolridge, Capt., USN (Ret)
"Rugdance"

Hometown: Springfield IL

High School and College Career:

Springfield High School 1965
Blackburn College 1969 BA

Dates on Active Duty: Mar 1970- Apr 1997

Date Commissioned/Source:

10 July 1970, Aviation Officer Candidate School (AOCS)

Date of Designation: Nov 1971

Total Flight Hours: 8300

Carrier/Ship Landings: 720

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 7000 Prop: 1300

VF/VA: 6000 VT: 1300 VU/VC: 1000 (A4) Helo: 10

Commands:

VFA195, NFDS, NFDS (2nd time), NAS Lemoore, NFDS (3rd time)

Awards:

Legion of Merit (2)
Meritorious Service Medal (2)
Navy Commendation Medal
Navy Achievement Medal
NDM



Duty Assignment Chronology

01/72-01/74 VT-1Flight Instructor, Saufley Field Pensacola FL , T-34B
04/74-12/76 VA-25 various JO jobs, NAS Lemoore CA, A-7E
01/77-08/79 VA-127 Tactics, Safety, etc, NAS Lemoore CA, TA-4J
04/79-01/82 VC-5 Maint, Ops, Tactics, NAS Cubi Pt RP, A-4D/E/F, H-3H
04/82-01/85 VA-22 Ops, Maint, Safety, NAS Lemoore, CA, A-7E
01/85-06/87 COMLATWINGPAC Flag Sec, Admat Team Lead, NAS Lemoore, CA, A-7E
08/87-12/87 VA-125 RP, NAS Lemoore, CA, F/A-18A/B
02/88-07/90 VFA-195 XO/CO, NAF Atsugi, Japan, F/A-18A/C
08/90-11/92 NFDS CO, Flight Leader, NAS Pensacola, FL, F/A-18A/B
01/93-05/93 Defense Language Institute - student (Spanish), Monterey, CA
05/93-11/93 NFDS CO, Flight Leader, NAS Pensacola, FL, F/A-18A/B
04/94-05/96 CO, NAS Lemoore CA, C-12, H-1N, F/A-18C
05/96-12/96 NFDS CO, Flight Leader, NAS Pensacola, FL, F/A-18C/D
01/97-04/97 VT-86 Flight Instructor, NAS Pensacola, FL, T-2C

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) VT-1 Instructor of the Month Jan 1973
- (2) First Cruise Top Hook CVW-2 1976
- (3) Started Adversary Program at VA-127 1977
- (4) Selected to fly Cold War nation's aircraft in 1979. Program later scrubbed.
- (5) Started Adversary Program at VC-5 Cubi Pt in 1981.
- (6) Led COMORANGEAIR for Team Spirit 1982.
- (7) Led the Blue Angels to Moscow and seven other nations in 1992.
- (8) Recalled to lead the Blues in 1993.
- (9) Led NAS Lemoore the the President's Installation of Excellence award (world-wide) in 1995.
- (10) Recalled to lead the Blues in 1996. Team would have been down for this 50th Anniversary Year and likely beyond.

Summary of Post Military Work

- (1) FedEx Flight Engineer Line Check Airman. Implemented post flight debriefs (FAA approved).
- (2) Medical issue forced retirement from FedEx in 2010.
- (3) Started public speaking re: High Performance domestically and abroad. Averaging twice a month and still involved.
- (4) Ran for governor of Oregon in 2018, lost in the primary.
- (5) Working on the Cascadia Resilience Project
- (6) Short stint with Capitol Ministries, Washington State
- (7) Currently an executive producer of an IMAX feature film with IMAX, Bad Robot and JJ Abrams. Release date Sept 2023.
- (8) Selected to receive the FAA Wright Brothers Award.

Associations/Membership/Boards:

- (1) Past boards include Blue Angel Foundation, Oregon International Air Show, USS *Ranger* Foundation, Dorchester Board, Restore America Board.
- (2) Currently on the Chartwell Society Board and the Oregon International Airshow Board.
- (3) Working with non-profits including St Stephens School, Quiet Birdmen Society, Transitional Youth, EAA Chapters, Red Tail Cadets.