

Richard L. Kiehl, Captain, USN (Ret) "Dick"

Date of Designation: 18 August 1955

Total Flight Hours: 5,683

<u>Carrier/Ship Landings</u>: Fixed wing: 1,319 Squadron/Air Wing LSO for 10 years

Combat Tours:

- Vietnam: VA-195, USS Bon Homme Richard (CVA-31), 1963
- Vietnam: VA-195, USS Bon Homme Richard (CVA-31), 1964
- Vietnam: VA-195, USS Bon Homme Richard (CVA-31), 1965
- Vietnam: VA-195, USS Ticonderoga (CVA-14), 1966
- Vietnam: VA-195, USS Ticonderoga (CVA-14), 1967
- Vietnam: USS *Kitty Hawk* (CVA-63), XO/CO VA-192, 1970-73

Total Combat Missions: 500

<u>Aviation Commands</u>: XO/CO, VA-192, 1970-1973 CO, Reserve Air Wing 20, 1975-1976

Combat Awards:

Legion of Merit with combat "V"

Distinguished Flying Cross with three gold stars 47 Strike Flight Air Medals 4 Individual Air Medals with combat "V" Navy Unit Commendation with gold star

Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal

Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, Presented by the President of South Vietnam

Duty Assignment Chronology

1954-1955 Flight student (NAVCAD), NAS Pensacola, FL Advanced Training, Corpus Christi, TX (SNJ, T28, AD1).



- 1955 Commissioned as a Naval Aviator on USS *Yorktown*, August 18, 1955, Corpus Christi, TX.
- 1955 Assigned VA-195, NAS Moffett Field, CA (A1's A6's).
- 1958-1960 VA-195, WestPac deployment on USS *Yorktown* (A1's). OOD Qualified Independent Steaming.
- 1961 F9F-8T, NAS Lemoore, CA, 124 Det A, squadron designation changed to VA-127. Maintenance and Line Division Officer.
 1961 VA-127, NAS Lemoore, CA.
- 1962 CAG-19 Staff LSO. Flew with VA-195.
- 1963-1965 VA-195. Made three deployments on USS Bon Homme Richard as Air Wing LSO, including a deployment to the Indian Ocean. Visits to Diego Suarez, Mombasa, Aden, Bombay, India (two visits). In the Persian Gulf I briefed the Shaw of Iran on the carriers optical landing system.
- 1966-1967 VA-195, Air Wing LSO, made two combat cruises on USS *Ticonderoga* (A4's).
- 1967-1969 VA-125 Training Squadron, Maintenance Officer (800 maintenance personnel).
- 1969-1970 VA-95, NAS Alameda, CA. USS *John F. Kennedy* Mediterranean cruise. VA-95 was decommissioned in February of 1970. I was assigned to VA-192.
- 1970-1971 VA-192. Two combat cruises (A7E). Completed 500 combat missions in VA-192 as XO/CO on USS *Kitty Hawk*. UNREP approaches qualified.
- 1972-1973 U.S. Naval War College, Newport, RI. Night School Salve Regina, BS degree in Political Science from University of Rhode Island.
- 1974-1976 CAG 20 (CO) NAS Jacksonville, FL. A7–Jacksonville, A4-Atlanta, A4-Memphis, A3-Alameda, Two F8 squadrons-Dallas, E1-Norfolk, F8P-Andrews AFB.

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Duty Assignment Chronology continued

- 1976-1977 OP-508/OP-50W; Navy/Marine Discharge Review Board
- 1977 Retired from active duty 1 September 1977.

Personal Data

Born January 17, 1933

Attended grade school and high school in Libertyville, Illinois followed by two years at the University of Montana in Missoula (Foresty School). Then joined the USN aviation cadet flight program (NAVCAD) in Pensacola, FL.

Winged August 1955 and married Butte, MT girl, Sandra Karin Cooney June 1956. We celebrate our 58th wedding anniversary June 16th. We have two children, David 52, Dana 51 – and we have two grand children, Brittany and Geoffrey.