



**Bryan D. O'Connor Col, USMC (Ret)**  
"OC"

Date of Designation: 5 June 1970

Dates of Active Duty: 15 July 1964 - 1 Oct 1992

Total Flight Hours: 5,178

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 156

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 4,440 Prop: 321 VF/VA: 1,160 VR/VP: 28  
VT: 2,513 Other: 417

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: USS Bon Homme Richard, 7/67-8/67 (Ship's Company and VA-76)

Aviation Commands:

CO, Marine Aviation Detachment NATC Patuxent River, 8/91-5/92

Commander, STS-40 Space Shuttle Mission, June 1991

Combat Awards: None

### **Duty Assignment Chronology**

7/64-6/68 U. S. Naval Academy, Midshipman, Annapolis, MD (T-34B, T-28C, TF-9J, S-2, H-1).  
6/68-12/68 The Basic School, Quantico, VA, Student.  
12/68-6/70 Naval Air Training Command, Student (T-34B, T-28B/C, TF-9J).  
6/70-8/71 VMA-214, Squadron Pilot, El Toro, CA, (TA-4F, A-4E/F).  
8/71-1/73 Naval Air Training Command, Instructor, (TA-4J).  
1/73-12/75 VMA-513, Squadron Pilot, Beaufort, S.C., (AV-8A).



12/75-7/79 Naval Air Test Center, Test Pilot, Patuxent River, MD (A-4M, AV-8A, YAV-8B, X-22, OV-10, and others).  
7/79-7/80 Naval Air Systems Command, Harrier Class Desk, Washington, DC.  
7/80-8/91 NASA, Pilot Astronaut, Houston, TX., (T-38, KC-135, G-2, Space Shuttle)  
8/91-6/92 Naval Air Test Center, Commanding Officer, Marine Aviation Detachment, Chief of Staff, NAWC AD, Patuxent River, MD (AV-8B, T-38, XV-15, T-39).  
6/92-10/92 NASA HQ, Deputy Associate Administrator for Space Flight, Washington, DC.

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

- (1) Assigned as charter member of first U.S. Harrier Squadron, VMA-513.
- (2) Served as NATOPS/Aviation Safety and Landing Signal Officer on first AV-8 amphibious cruise (USS *Guam*, Med, 1974).
- (3) Led the first Navy Preliminary Evaluation of YAV-8B prototype (first flight Nov '78).
- (4) Participated in advanced V/STOL display development using variable stability X-22 research aircraft.
- (5) Participated in first U.S. tests of British Ski Jump.
- (6) Participated in suitability trials of AV-8A for several types of amphibious ships, expeditionary airfield concepts and landing aids.
- (7) Led team certifying AV-8A for various weapons.
- (8) Participated in development of advanced flight test methods for VSTOL aircraft.
- (9) Served as pilot on Space Shuttle mission STS-61B, participating in orbital tests of experimental flight control software
- (10) Served as Commander of STS-40, the first dedicated Space Shuttle life sciences mission.