



**Robert W. Nelson Jr. Captain, USN (Ret.)**  
 “Brick”

Date of Designation: November 1976

Dates of Active Duty: November 1974 – September 2005.

Total Flight Hours: 8255

Carrier/Ship Landings: 1,403 arrested / 30 rotary.

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 7940 hours - VT, TA-4J, VA/VFA/VF: A7E, FA-18A/B/C/D/F, F-4B/J/S, F-14A/B/B+.

Prop: VT: T-34B, T-28B/C, S-2: 150 flight hours

Helo: H-3, SH-60, 42 flight hours

Other military E-2C, EA-6B, S-3B.

Supporting Combat Operations : Flying 19 Combat Missions  
 Operation Desert Shield 1991.  
 Operations Northern & Southern Watch 1993.  
 Operation Desert Fox 1998.

Aviation Commands:

VFA-105 April 1992 - October 1993

CVW-3 April 1999 - October 2000

Combat and Support Operations :

Operations Provide Promise, Desert Shield, Southern Watch, Northern Watch, Deliberate Guard, Deny Flight, Allied Force, and Iraqi Freedom.

Military Awards:

Legion of Merit (2)

Bronze Star CVW-3 airborne leadership

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Air Medal 2 individual (V), and 6 strike flight medals

Joint Service Commendation Medal



**Duty Assignment Chronology**

- 1975 Aviation Officers Candidate School, NAS Pensacola, FL.
- 1975 – 1976 Student Naval aviator VT-2 NAS Pensacola FL; VT-22 NAS Kingsville, TX: VA- 174, NAS Cecil Field, FL.
- 1977 – 1980 Fleet Aviator, VA -113, NAS Lemoore, CA, USS *RANGER* (CV-61)
- 1980 – 1982 Flight Instructor, Advanced Jet Training, VT-25, (TA-4J) NAS Beeville, TX.
- 1982 – 1984 CVW-5 Air Wing LSO, Administrative Officer (A-7E, F-4 J/S), USS *MIDWAY* (CV-41, Yokosuka, Japan.
- 1984 F/A-18 transition training, VFA-125, NAS Lemoore, CA.
- 1985 – 1987 FRS Instructor, FRAMP Officer, VFA-106 Strike Detachment OIC (FA-18 A/B), NAS Cecil Field FL / NAS Fallon, NV.
- 1987 – 1989 Department Head, VFA-87 (F/A-18 A/B), USS *THEODORE ROOSEVELT* (CVN-71), NAS Cecil Field, FL.
- 1989 – 1991 F/A -18 Training & Readiness Officer, Commander, Naval Air Forces U.S. Atlantic Fleet, NAS Norfolk, VA.
- 1991 – 1993 Commanding Officer / Executive Officer VFA-105 (F/A-18C) USS *JOHN F. KENNEDY*, (CV-67), NAS Cecil Field, FL.
- 1994 – 1997 Navy Program Manager, Base Transition Officer, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Washington D.C.
- 1997 – 2000 Deputy & Commander Carrier Air Wing Three (FA-18C, F-14 A/B+) USS *ENTERPRISE* (CVN 65), USS *HARRY S TRUMAN* (CVN075).
- 2000 – 2002 Senior Fellow, CNO Strategic Studies Group, Newport, RI.
- 2002 – 2005 Deputy Director CNO DEEP BLUE, Office, Washington, D.C.

## Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) First tour (ENS / LTJG) designated section leader, division leader, strike leader, A-7E PMCF qualification.
- (2) Chief of Naval Air Training LSO of the year..
- (3) U.S. Navy Fighter Weapons School (Top Gun) graduate.
- (4) East coast F/A-18 FRS VFA-106 plank owner; OIC, Permanent Strike Training Det. NAS Fallon, NV. and senior flight instructor for Blue Angel transition from the A-4 to the F/A-18 Hornet.
- (5) Co-authored (with Shortney Gortney) numerous TACNOTES – NVG, high altitude supersonic tactics bombing (MK 80 series); and mixed division (F-14 and F/A-18) training syllabus. As, the CO / XO of VFA-105, the squadron earned: 3 consecutive CNAL Battle E awards, 3 Bombing Derby awards, 2 consecutive CNAL Golden Wrench awards, 2 Safety “S” awards, and 13 consecutive line period/deployment CVW-3 tail hook awards.
- (6) Deployed on USS *Enterprise*, as DCAG/CAG flying combat strikes in Operations Iraqi Freedom, Desert Fox, and Northern / Southern Watch.
- (7) Developed classified and mixed fighter division missile support TTPs and led the first carrier air wing detachment based ashore in Israel.
- (8) Senior Navy Liaison Officer to the Combined Air Operations Center / 5th Allied Tactical Forces, Vicenza, Italy.
- (9) CNO's senior air campaign planner for Operation Iraqi Freedom; deployed to the CENTCOM AOR directly supporting the Air, Maritime and Land Component Commanders.
- (10) Deputy Director and plank owner at DEEP BLUE. Major projects included: National Military Security Plan for the War on Terrorism; Fleet Response Plan; Expeditionary Strike Group Concept; Operation Iraqi Freedom Lessons Learned; and Global Maritime Intercept Operations.

## Summary of Post Navy Career Events

- (1) Northrop Grumman Corporation Director, Aerospace Systems Business Development & Strategy (6 years), Corporate Lead Executive San Diego (7 years).
- (2) CEO, Tier One Defense & National Security LLC.
- (3) Member, Navy League of the United States San Diego CA. Chapter.
- (4) Member, Board of Directors Fleet Week San Diego.

(5) Member, Board of Directors, San Diego Military Advisory Council (SDMAC).

(6) Member, Board of Directors, TAILHOOK Association.

(7) Member, Board of Directors, TAILHOOK Education Foundation.

## Personal

Spouse Tanya Ann Nelson

children: Robert Wayne Nelson III, Ian Scott Nelson, Caitlin Alexandra Probert (nee Nelson)

grandson: Robert Wayne Nelson IV.