



Aboard *Kitty Hawk*, December 1966



Julie

2018

**H. Denny Wisely, RADM USN (Ret.)**  
 “Rattler”

Date of Designation: August 24, 1962 NA# V-19057

Dates of Active Duty: 4 February 1961 – 1 October 1994

Total Flight Hours: 5,500

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing 850 (550 day/300 night)

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 4,450 Prop: 950 VF/VA: 3,825

VT: 1,050 VU: 300

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: VF-114, USS *Kitty Hawk*, Oct. 1965-June 1966, F-4s, 124 missions

Vietnam: VF 114, USS *Kitty Hawk*, October 1966-June 1967, F-4s, 85 missions

Vietnam: VF-114, USS *Kitty Hawk*, Feb. 1972-Nov. 1972, F-4s, 141 missions

Total Combat Missions: 350 (F-4)

Aviation Commands:

CO, VF-114, (acting) Aug. 1972 (F-4s)

CO, VF-151, 1978-1979: Forward Deployed in USS *Midway* (F-4s)

Blue Angels 1980-1981 (A-4s)

USS *Sylvania* (AFS-2) 1986-87

USS *John F. Kennedy*, 1988-89

Combat Awards:

Silver Star

2 Distinguished Flying Cross

Purple Heart

29 Air Medals

6 Navy Commendation Medals with Combat V

Combat Action Ribbon

Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry

**Duty Assignment Chronology**

- 2/61-8/61 NAVCAD Preflight, Primary Flight training, Pensacola (T-34).
- 9/61-1/62 Basic Training, Meridian (T-2).
- 2/62-4/62 Gunnery and CQ, Pensacola, FL.
- 5/62-8/62 Advanced , F-9/F-11, Kingsville, TX.
- 9/62-9/63 Primary Flight Instructor, Pensacola, FL.
- 10/63-10/64 VU-3, North Island (F-6 (Ford)).
- 10/64-6/65 VF-121 RAG, NAS Miramar (F-4).
- 6/65-7/67 VF-114, NAS Miramar/USS *Kitty Hawk* (F-4)
- 8/67-11/68 NAVPRO St Louis.
- 12/68-1270 USNPG School, Monterey, CA.
- 1/71-5/71 VF-121, RAG, NAS Miramar (F-4).
- 6/71-10/73 VF-114, NAS Miramar/USS *Kitty Hawk* (F-4)
- 11/73-3/77 VX-4, Pt Mugu, CA (F-4, F-14, C-1, A-4).
- 4/77- 6/77 VF-121 RAG, NAS Miramar, CA (F-4).
- 7/77-10/79 VF-151, USS *Midway*, Yokosuka (F-4).
- 11/79-11/81 Blue Angels, NAS Pensacola, FL.
- 12/81-4/82 Surface Warfare School, Newport, RI.
- 4/82-10/83 USS *America* Norfolk, VA.
- 10/83-10/84 Office of Legislative Affairs, SECNAV
- 10/84-9/85 Office of Program Appraisal, SECNAV
- 10/85-2/86 SOSMRC, Idaho Falls/Newport.
- 4/86-10/87 USS *Sylvania*, Norfolk, VA
- 11/87-1/88 TEMDU AIRLANT, Norfolk, VA.
- 1/88-5/89 USS *John F Kennedy*, Norfolk, VA.
- 6/89-4/90 SIXTHFLT, BELKNAP, Gaeta, Italy.
- 5/90-7/90 CAPSTONE Course
- 7/90-9/90 Financial Management Cr, Montgomery.
- 9/90-6/92 SPAWAR, Crystal City, VA.
- 6/92-10/94 Defense Nuclear Agency, Alexandria, VA
- 10/1/1994 Retired from active duty.

**Summary of Significant Career Events**

- (1) First assignment after wings was Primary flight Instructor, Saufley. Middie Stauback was my student. Left with over 1000 hours and still an ensign.

### Summary of Significant Career Events continued

- (2) Flew Skyrays at North Island. Flew Air Combat Maneuvering Sorties against dissimilar aircraft in 1 versus many and in several fighter versus many bogeys scenarios almost every day. Great training for later.
- (3) While on second combat deployment in VF-114 aboard *Kitty Hawk* became first with two kills in Vietnam.
- (4) Shot down by ground fire on Hanoi strike. Flew 60 miles with no hydraulics. Both of us picked up by second helo.
- (5) Counting Miramar and NAVPRO St Louis, flew 9 different versions of the F-4. Zoom climbed it to 85,000 could see curve of the earth, stars out and IAS low enough for gear while still supersonic.
- (6) During '72 combat deployment and while acting XO, became acting CO due to loss of CO.
- (7) During USS *Kennedy* CO tour Air Wing bagged 2 Lybian Floggers (not Messerschmitts, Floggers). Fun, but better to be in the cockpit.
- (8) Member Society Experimental Test Pilots 1976 for evaluation work of MiG 21 and comparison analysis with F-5. No TPS.
- (9) Inducted into the New Jersey Aviation Hall of Fame in 1995.



VF-114 F-4 in museum courtyard in Hanoi