



Rear Admiral William E. Newman, USN (Ret.)

Rear Admiral Bill Newman, a 1961 Naval Academy graduate, retired from active duty in 1996, culminating 35 years of commissioned service.

Primarily an aircraft carrier-based naval aviator, he served as attack pilot, experimental test pilot, and flight demonstration pilot as leader of the Navy's *Blue Angels*. Bill logged 950 carrier landings and 5200 pilot hours in 53 types of U.S. and British military aircraft. During 1965 combat operations in Vietnam, Bill's A-4 "Skyhawk" was hit by enemy ground fire on several missions. He was shot down and rescued on a Friday-the-13th--a not-too-unlucky day.

During 1978/79, as Commanding Officer/Flight Leader of the Navy's *Blue Angels*, Bill led the team in 200+ air shows throughout the USA and Canada flying the A-4 "Skyhawk II".

Along the way, Bill had the following sea commands: *Attack Squadron-195* flying the A-7 "Corsair II", the 90 aircraft comprising *Carrier Air Wing NINE* onboard the aircraft carrier *Constellation*, and the *USS White Plains*, a 17,000-ton combat stores ship operating in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

During the last ten years of his career, Bill served in the Naval Air Systems Command as a Materiel Professional. His responsibilities included major acquisition program management, engineering oversight of naval aviation development programs, and flag command of the *Naval Air Warfare Centers'* research and test activities performed on 53,000 square miles of test ranges in southern California.