



John Weiss, Grew up in Rochester, NY; Graduated Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute 1974; 20 Years of Active Duty

VC-8 from December 1975 to December 1978; VC-8 Rank of ENS to LT

Squadron Jobs: Paraloft, Corrosion Control, Asst Airframes, Retention

Post VC-8 Life: Transferred back to Beeville, TX, to be a TA-4 instructor in VT-25. At the end of the tour I married Ellen Thomas, a Navy Nurse I met in Roosy. After 2 years I transitioned to the A-6E at VA-128, NAS Whidbey Island, WA. My first squadron tour was in VA-115 on USS Midway in Yokosuka, Japan, where I was promoted to LCDR. In 1984 I moved to Albuquerque where I did a Joint tour as an Instructor at the Interservice Nuclear Weapons School, Kirtland AFB. 1986-89 was my second squadron tour in VA-165, Whidbey Island. I did a 'round-the-world cruise on USS Kitty Hawk and an Indian Ocean cruise on USS Nimitz. In 1989 I moved to Virginia Beach and learned the administrative side of flight test on the staff of Commander, Operational Test & Evaluation Force, in Norfolk. In 1992 I moved to China Lake, CA, where I was Chief Operational Test Director at VX-5 until my retirement in 1994. I flew the A-6E, EA-6B, F/A-18D, and AH-1W. I never recovered from having too much fun at VC-8, and retired as a LCDR.

After I retired, I took a job as a Flight Test Engineer with Delex at Edwards AFB, where I worked on the ill-fated Tri-Service Standoff Attack Missile. After that contract ended, I moved to the Seattle area, got my Master of Software Engineering degree at Seattle U, and took a job as a Software Test Engineer at Boeing. During the Boeing RIF of 1998 I got an opportunity to fly the 747 at Atlas Air, where I stayed until my second forced retirement in August, 2017. I flew the 747-200, -300, -400, -8, and LCF ("Dreamlifter"). Ellen died of melanoma in 2010. I met Fran Schwaiger, the FedEx Ramp Engineer at SEA, via eHarmony, and married her in 2012. We are now both retired and living in Edmonds, WA.

VC-8 Memories: FACIT hops through the Francis Drake Passage, low passes over NATO ships at the end of large exercises, AQM launches; #22 obsolete airplane holding short for takeoff; rides in the Canadian T-33s; flying RADM Flanagan to Norfolk in the A-4; OTL BOQ (with a beer at lunch on no-fly days!), hassling Russ Rose (BOQ Officer)

Puerto Rican Memories: Dinner at Don Ramon's in Humacao; formal reception on a German destroyer in San Juan; sailing to Vieques, gigging for lobsters at Green Beach; ferrying people to St. Thomas & St. Croix in the flying club, getting my Glider license; parties at the SEAL camp.

Any VC-8 or Roosy or Puerto Rico Photos: See next pages. Note: CRS syndrome may have fuzzified some names. Corrections welcome.

Any Interesting Artifacts: Still searching basement...