

AVIATION WALL OF HONOR

Lt. William A. "Tony" Voegtline USN



Tony was born and raised in Gwinn, Michigan and was a graduate of the Gwinn High School class of 1955. He graduated from Northern Michigan College (now NMU) in 1961 and received his master's degree from NMU in 1968.

Tony's pre-flight training as an Aviation officer Candidate (AOC) was at Pensacola Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida from June 28 to October 20, 1961. Upon completion of training, he was then commissioned an Ensign in the Active Naval Reserve. Tony then took primary flight training at NAS, Saufley Field, Pensacola, in the single engine fixed wing T-34B aircraft and soloed on December 19, 1961.

After completing Basic Flight Training at NAS Whiting Field,

Milton, Florida, Tony transitioned to the T-28B aircraft, including basic instrument flying, formation flying, and aerial gunnery. Carrier landing training was at Barin Field, Alabama, in the T-28C aircraft. He completed carrier qualification landings aboard the aircraft carrier USS Antietam on July 16, 1962.

Tony did his Radio Instrument Training in the twin engine fixed wing SN-B aircraft at NAS Whiting Field and was assigned an instrument rating on April 19, 1962. He completed Helicopter Training in the HTL-6 and H34/HSS-1 aircraft at NAS at Ellison Field, in Pensacola.

Tony was designated a Naval Aviator on December 21, 1962. He received his "Wings of Gold" from the Navy League for "achieving the highest final class standing in his flight training class." He was assigned to the Replacement Air Group Squadron, HS-10 (Anti-Submarine Squadron 10) at NAAS Ream Field,

San Diego, California from January 1963 to May 1963. He transitioned to the twin turbine SH-3A Sea King Helicopter (President's type of HELO), which included the tactics to be used in a fleet squadron.

He was then assigned to Helicopter Anti-Submarine Warfare Squadron Four (HS-4 Black Knights) at NAAS, Ream Field, San Diego from June 1963 to June 1966. In addition to ASW (Anti-Submarine Warfare) the mission included search and rescue, reconnaissance, surveillance, transfers between other ships in the group, and any other service a helicopter is capable of, including chaplain transfers on Sundays (Holy HELO).

In addition to regular squadron flying duties, he was also a NATOPS (Naval Aviation Training and Operating Procedures Standardization) check pilot, Instrument Check Pilot, "VIP" Transfer Pilot, and Maintenance Test Pilot.

HS-4 was stationed aboard the aircraft carrier USS Yorktown, CVS-10, for two long cruises (six to seven months) to the Western Pacific and the South China Sea, coast of Vietnam. In addition, there were many short training cruises lasting from three days to four weeks.

Tony was awarded the National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and a Citation for Flights in the Vietnam area.

Tony is married to Judith K. (Wilson) Voegtline. They have one son, Gregory; daughter-in-law Judy (Negrinelli) Voegtline; and one grandson, Connor Anthony Voegtline.

After his Naval service, Tony taught at the Gwinn Middle School until his retirement. He resides in Gwinn, MI.