



United States Navy Biography

CAPT James R. Facinelli
USNR (Ret)

December 7, 1984 – January 2, 2015

CAPT Facinelli was born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania where he graduated from Notre Dame High School in 1977. He has a B.S. degree in Agricultural Business Management from The Pennsylvania State University 1981, and earned his MBA from the University of West Florida in 1993. He received his commission through the Aviation Officer Candidate School in December 1984. Upon completion of flight training with VT-10 and VT-86 he received his Naval Flight Officer Wings in March 1986 and was selected to fly the F-14A Tomcat. After Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS) training at VF-101 NAS Oceana he reported to The "RED RIPPERS" of VF-11 embarked in the USS Forrestal. LT Facinelli deployed to the North Atlantic, Mediterranean, and the Indian Ocean. In 1988, he flew in support of "Line of Death" operations in the Gulf of Sidra, off the Libyan coast. During that same deployment, he spent 108 consecutive days flying "ERNEST WILL" missions in support of Kuwait in the Persian Gulf.

LT Facinelli returned to shore duty at VT-86 as an Instructor RIO for advanced Naval Flight Officer training from Feb 90 thru Sep 93. In Oct 93 he transferred to the Naval Reserve and was assigned to VTU-8282 at NAS New Orleans, La. During this tour LCDR Facinelli participated in "ULCHI FOCUS LENS" fleet exercises in Seoul, Korea.

In Oct 95 LCDR Facinelli was selected to join Naval Reserve Detachment 382 to return as the first Reserve NFO instructor in CNATRA supporting VT-86. He held billets as the Administrative Officer, Executive Officer and then Commanding Officer of DET 382 from Oct 00 until Sep 02. In Oct 02 CDR Facinelli was selected TraWing SIX Reserve Component Commander, this Wing Command included 3 NR Squadron Augment Units VT-4, VT-10 and VT-86. CDR Facinelli joined the Naval Education and Training Command Unit, NETC 0858 in Oct 04. During this tour he attended The National Defense University in Washington D.C completing the Reserve Components National Security Course. He attended Naval War College, Newport RI in Sep 05 for Joint Military Operations to complete this tour of duty.

CAPT Facinelli commanded NR CARSTRKGRU SIX 0674 NS Mayport from Oct 05 until Dec 07. NR CSG-6 was selected as NOSC Jacksonville "Unit of the Year" for 2005 and 2006. CSG-6 served as the core staff element standing up CTF-HOA in 2005.

CAPT Facinelli served as the Chief Staff Officer for NR US Joint Forces Command 206, Norfolk, VA during his tour from DEC 07 thru Nov 2010. He supported the Joint Warfare Center (JWFC) with his participation in the Joint National Training Capability (JNTC) Air Defense Exercise, PanamaX and Pinnacle events. He led the Joint Reserve Directorate efforts to support the Joint Unmanned Aerial Systems Center of Excellence, JUAS COE at Creech AFB. CAPT Facinelli completed the Joint Enabling Capabilities Command Planners Course (JECC PC) in 2011 while serving a one year tour with NR NATO ACT HQ Norfolk, Va. As a special projects officer for Combat ID and fratricide prevention, he represented the NATO ACT training department for exercise BOLD QUEST in June of 2011.

In December 2011 CAPT Facinelli was selected to join the NR C3F Maritime Air Operations unit, he completed the IQT Strategy Course and the J/CSSC Course at the 505th and 705th Air Force Training Unit Hurlbert Field. CAPT Facinelli has held senior leadership roles for exercises TERMINAL FURY, RIM PAC and JTFEX in 2012. He was the Chief Staff Officer for this 155 billet command.

In May of 2013 CAPT Facinelli was mobilized and deployed to JTF Guantanamo Bay as the Commissions Liaison Officer on the JTF staff. He returned to C3F in July of 2014 after a one year tour overseas. CAPT Facinelli was transferred to the retired reserve January 1, 2015 with 30 years of service to our nation.

CAPT Facinelli has over 2200 flight hours and 250 arrested landings. His personal awards include, The Legion of Merit, 2 Defense Meritorious Service Medal, 3 Meritorious Service Medals, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Navy Overseas Service Ribbon and various unit awards.

CAPT Facinelli, his wife Jacqueline and their 17 year old son Dominick reside in Dunedin, Florida. CAPT Facinelli is currently employed as a Senior Naval Science Instructor at Dunedin High School for NJROTC.