



MARITIME PATROL AND RECONNAISSANCE FORCE HALL OF HONOR

Captain Norman “Bus” Miller United States Navy

Captain Miller was one of only two Naval Aviators from North Carolina to receive the Navy Cross for actions during World War II. An exceptionally brave and skillful pilot, Miller is credited with the astonishing feat of destroying or damaging sixty-six Japanese vessels, not including small craft. He acted as Commanding officer of VB-109, a Navy PB4Y Liberator bombing squadron, in the Pacific theater. VB-109 consisted of 15 B-24 (PB4Y-1) planes with 57 officers and 148 enlisted men. Between December 31, 1943 and August 16, 1944, his planes sank 20 Japanese ships, and damaged 46 other enemy surface craft as well as destroying installations and aircraft on many South Pacific Islands including Truk, Kwajalein, Puluwat, Saipan and Iwo Jima.

He retired from the Pacific war zone with several letters of congratulations including one from Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet: “It is enough to say that the enemy will be glad that you left the forward area. Congratulations on an outstanding tour of combat duty. Well done.”

In addition to his Navy Cross, he earned at least fourteen other military medals and awards. Miller, Naval Aviator 4050, was decorated more times than any other aviator in the Navy.

He was buried with full military honors in Arlington Nation Cemetery (Section 6, Grave 5015-A.) He was promoted to Captain posthumously. Awards received;

- Navy Cross
- Silver Star
- 6 Distinguished Flying Crosses
- 6 Air Medals
- Purple Heart
- Two Letters of Commendation from the Secretary of the Navy and Admiral Nimitz
- Presidential Unit Citation VB-109
- American Defense Service Medal – Fleet Clasp
- American Area Campaign Medal
- Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal with 3 Bronze Stars
- World War II Victory Medal