



**MARITIME PATROL AND RECONNAISSANCE FORCE
HALL OF HONOR**

Captain John McCaull

United States Navy

CAPT John McCaull is a native of Van Nuys, CA. Born in 1933, he was drafted into the Navy in 1957, the same year he started his 63-year marriage to his college sweetheart, Laurie. He was trained in Pensacola, commissioned an Ensign and received his Wings of Gold all within the same year. After an uneventful first tour in which his squadron transitioned from P-5Ms to P-2V7s, he was sent to VP-31 as an instructor.

While instructing at the FRS, he was given a set of orders that would forever change his life. Issued a plane ticket to Washington, DC, he was directed to "go to the southeast corner of Maine and First Street and wait for a black car to arrive. When it pulls up, get in". The newest member of the Central Intelligence Agency, CAPT McCaull was quickly relocated to Taipei, Taiwan, and given orders to train the Chinese pilots to fly electronically modified P-2Vs over mainland China. In CAPT McCaull's words, "I was helping the Chinese Resistance fly reconnaissance and intelligence missions over mainland China." As the war between Taiwan and mainland China continued, the missions of the secret P2Vs began gaining national recognition. Because of the intelligence being collected, a \$50,000 reward was posted by the Chinese for CAPT McCaull's life or the shooting down of his reconnaissance aircraft. During his time with the "Black Bats", 7 of the 8 P2Vs were shot down, totaling 84 lost aircrew. Upon returning to active duty, with a two-and-a-half year gap in his career resume and no hours in his logbook, CAPT McCaull spent the next six months training and learning to fly the P2V again. With over 5,000 actual hours under his belt, CAPT McCaull's "refresh" training was successful.

Serving as a Department Head with VP-1, he made two wartime deployments to Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam. His shore tours included Flag Secretary to Commander, Naval Air Forces Pacific, Operations Officer with Commander, Carrier Division THREE and Chief of Staff for Commander, Ocean Systems Pacific in Hawaii. Following his promotion to Captain, he commanded the Pacific Naval Ocean Processing Facility. He then served as Chief of the Navy Military Advisory Group, Thailand before retiring from his final position in 1987, as Chief of Staff for Commander, Patrol Wings Pacific with over 6500 flight hours.