



MARITIME PATROL AND RECONNAISSANCE FORCE HALL OF HONOR

Rear Admiral Charles O. Prindle

United States Navy

Rear Admiral Charles Prindle was born in Nyack, New York in 1931. Following graduation from high school, he enrolled at the University of Mississippi as an NROTC midshipman, graduating in May of 1953 and immediately reporting to flight training. Designated a Naval Aviator in October 1954, he reported to Patrol Squadron 28 in Barbers Point, HI, participating in the squadron's first P2V Neptune deployments to NAS Adak, Alaska and Iwakuni, Japan. After a tour as a primary flight instructor in Pensacola, FL he reported to the Staff of Commander, Carrier Division SIX as CIC Officer. In 1964, then Lieutenant Commander Prindle reported to VP-10 for his department head tour. During this tour he was cited for the superb planning and execution of the squadron's transition from the P2V to the P3A Orion and was the Operations Officer as they completed their first deployment to Keflavik, Iceland.

Following tours at Naval Postgraduate School and on the staff of Commander, Fleet Air Wings Pacific, he reported to Patrol Squadron FIFTY for his XO/CO tour just after the squadron completed transition to the P-3A from the P5M Marlin. He led Vp-50 on their first Orion deployment, conducting split site operations from Cubi Point, Philippines and Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, flying ASW from one site and overland enemy interdiction flights from the other and receiving the Bronze Star for his command presence. After work on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations, he served as Navy Assistant to the Chairman of the Joints Chiefs. He assumed command of Patrol Wing Eleven in September 1976, and 1977 saw the Wing record its first ever year with over 1,000 hours of Soviet submarine tracking.

Selected for promotion to Rear Admiral, he served as Commander, Patrol Wings Pacific prior to returning to Washington, DC for his final tour on the OPNAV staff. He was diagnosed with cancer, passing away on while still on active duty at Bethesda Naval Hospital in 1985.

Of all the endorsements with his nomination, the same quote kept appearing from personnel who served under him across his tours, and it was that "he made you want to be just like him".