

12. Captain John J. (Maz) Mazach, USN 6/24/1986 – 2/15/1988



Capt. Mazach was born January 24, 1944 in Coffeyville, KA and raised in Nashville, TN. He attended Vanderbilt University as a member of the NROTC program and graduated in June 1966 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and commissioned as an Ensign in the U.S. Navy. He immediately entered flight training at Naval Air Station, Pensacola and was designated a Naval Aviator in October 1967 at NAS Chase Field, Texas. He completed a Vietnam deployment on USS TICONDEROGA (CVA-4) and part of a Mediterranean cruise on USS ROOSEVELT (CVA-42). In 1970 he received orders to the Bureau of Naval Personnel where he served as a Retailer in the Aviation Assignment Section. Capt. Mazach reported to Attack Squadron 105 in July 1973. Other assignments included Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, VA-171 for A7E pilot training, Attack Squadron 15 and Naval Military Personnel Command.

Prior to retiring with the rank of Vice Admiral, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic fleet, he was director for Strategy and Policy for the Office of the CNO in Washington, DC. He also served as Commander for Carrier Group Two, Deputy Director for Plans and Policy for the Commander in Chief, U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany and also commanded the USS AMERICA (CV-66) during Operation Desert Shield/Storm in 1991.

His citations and awards include; the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit Medal with two gold stars, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service medal with two gold stars, Air Medal with eight Strike/Flight awards and Navy Meritorious Medal with Combat "V".

Vice Admiral John J. Mazach retired after 32 years active duty. He is now vice president for Business Development at Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding, Newport News.

Capt. Mazach was the guest speaker at USSSVA's 2016 reunion in Washington DC