



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

OPNAVINST 1650.35
N88
8 Jun 2011

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 1650.35

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: HONORARY NAVAL AVIATOR DESIGNATION

Encl: (1) Sample Honorary Naval Aviator Designation Certificate

1. Purpose. To establish orderly procedures and guidelines for nominating and designating certain outstanding individuals to become honorary naval aviators and to assign responsibility for management and maintenance of the official list of honorees.

2. Background. The practice of officially designating certain outstanding individuals as honorary naval aviators began in October 1949. This designation is not conferred lightly, and the contributions rendered to naval aviation by those so honored have been of a truly extraordinary nature. In recognition of an individual's service, an honorary naval aviator designation is bestowed on the individual with the right to wear the "Wings of Gold."

3. Responsibility. Commander, Naval Air Forces (COMNAVAIRFOR) will manage the program. Final approval of the nomination is made by Chief of Naval Operation (CNO). The Naval History and Heritage Command (DNS-H) will assist COMNAVAIRFOR in the maintenance of the official list of honorees.

4. Selection Criteria

- a. Nominees may be either military or civilian.
- b. Nominees need not be qualified pilots.
- c. Nominees will have made an extraordinary contribution which serves to enhance the mission and or traditions of naval aviation. Such contributions may include one or more of the following:

(1) A specific act of historic significance or heroic in nature.

(2) A contribution to human aspects of naval aviation such as training or aerospace medicine.

(3) A technical achievement or breakthrough in design, engineering or maintenance of aircraft, weapons and or associated systems.

(4) Media support of naval aviation in publications, art or audiovisual presentations.

(5) Public and or official promotion in support of naval aviation.

5. Procedures for Nominating

a. Nominations may be submitted with supporting documentation to COMNAVAIRFOR when it has been determined that a candidate meets the criteria set forth above and is otherwise considered to be qualified and deserving. Documentation should include a biography of the individual, photographs and other supporting information as appropriate.

b. Nominations will be reviewed by COMNAVAIRFOR and submitted to CNO via Director, Air Warfare (N88) with recommendations concerning approval.

c. Upon approval by the CNO, a Designation of Honorary Naval Aviator Certificate (see sample at enclosure (1)) will be signed by Director, Air Warfare (N88) for the CNO. The designation will be presented to the recipient at an appropriate ceremony, and his or her name will be entered on the official list of honorary naval aviators.

d. The official list of honorary naval aviators will be updated by DNS-H as new names are added and will be maintained in the archives of DNS-H.

6. Action. The foregoing criteria and procedures will be used in the nomination and designation of honorary naval aviators.

8 Jun 2011

7. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of November 2007.



K. E. FLOYD

Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy
Director, Air Warfare

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Designation of Honorary Naval Aviator



The Chief of Naval Operations takes pleasure in designating

Mr. Joe W. Navy

As

Honorary Naval Aviator

Number # ___

In the United States Navy

Having Been So Designated, He is Thus Entitled

To All Honors, Courtesies and Privileges

Accorded by Naval Law, Customs and Traditions

Presented On This 15th Day of October, 2010



Chief of Naval Operations