



Commander Ernest L. Anderson, Jr.

Officer in Charge, Air Test and Evaluation
Squadron NINE,
Detachment Edwards Air Force Base
United States Navy

CDR Ernest L. Anderson Jr. was born in Myrtle Beach, SC. He received his commission from the United States Naval Academy May 25th, 2001. Post commission he began flight training, completing API at NAS Pensacola and received his Wings of Gold in September, 2003 as a VT-22 Flying Eagle at NAS Kingsville, TX. Post winging, he learned to fly the venerable S-3B Viking as a Shamrock with VS-41 at NAS North Island.

“Big Ern” joined the fleet as a “World Famous” VS-33 Screwbird with CVW-9 for an around the world cruise aboard the USS Carl Vinson supporting the Global War on Terror in 2005. He served as Aircraft Branch Division Officer, Coffee Mess Officer, Public Affairs Officer and Head Schedules Officer. Post deployment the Screwbirds decommissioned as the last S-3B squadron on the west coast. Post decommissioning, he transitioned to the Strike Fighter community attending the FRS at VFA-125, NAS Lemoore, CA.

Post FRS, LT Anderson remained in Lemoore and became a VFA-94 Mighty Shrike flying the F/A-18C. During his “super JO” tour he checked in as the Senior Watch Officer, and served as NATOPS Officer, Aircraft Division Officer, and A/A Weapons and Tactics Officer. He completed two expeditionary deployments to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan supporting MAG-12 from 2007 to 2010.

From late 2010 to late 2011, he returned to NAS North Island and completed a tour as Flag Aide for RDML Thomas A. Cropper, Commander Strike Force Training, Pacific, evaluating four COMPTUEX exercises that year.

LCDR Anderson then transitioned to the F/A-18E Super Hornet, in order to serve as a Department Head for the Dambusters of VFA-195 from 2012 to late 2014 serving as Administrative, Safety, Maintenance, and Operations Officer. There he completed three CVW-5 deployments in support of Seventh Fleet, Chippy Ho!

Post Department Head tour, LCDR Anderson attended the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, CA. There he completed JPME Phase 1, and earned his MBA in Financial Management with an Energy Focus.

In the summer of 2016, “Big Ern” began flight training with the Grim Reapers of VFA-101 at Eglin AFB. There he completed the F-35C Joint Strike Fighter FRS syllabus before moving to Edwards AFB.

CDR Anderson has flown over 2800 hours, logged over 200 carrier arrested landings, and flown six different aircraft types. His awards include two Navy Commendation Medals and three Navy Achievement Medals.

CDR Anderson is currently serving as Officer in Charge for Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Nine, Detachment Edwards AFB. He is accompanied by his lovely wife Rachel and daughter Savannah.

