

Rear Admiral John Goodwin



A native of Dublin, Georgia, Rear Admiral John W. "Bill" Goodwin graduated from the University of South Carolina and was commissioned in May of 1975. He was designated a Naval Aviator in February 1977.

Goodwin reported to Attack Squadron (VA) 66 "Waldos" flying the A-7E *Corsair*, and completed deployments as part of Carrier Air Wing 7 and USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69). He then reported to Training Squadron (VT) 4 "Warbucks" as a flight instructor in the TA-4J *Skyhawk*. In March 1983, he was assigned as USS *Lexington* (CVT 16) catapult and arresting gear officer. Goodwin reported to the Naval Postgraduate School where he earned a Master of Science. Assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 25 "Fist of the Fleet" flying the F/A-18 *Hornet*, he completed deployments as part of Carrier Air Wing 14 and USS *Constellation* (CV 64). In June 1990, he reported to the Naval Air System Command Headquarters, Washington. His first command was VFA-94 "Shrikes/Mighty Shrikes" in August 1992. He graduated from the Naval War College in March 1995 with a Master of Arts.

Following Naval Nuclear Propulsion training, he served as executive officer, USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) until April 1998. He became commanding officer USS *Rainier* (AOE 7) in June 1998. Goodwin assumed command of the Pre-Commissioning Unit (PCU) *Ronald Reagan* (CVN 76) and became her first commanding officer in July 2003. Goodwin was promoted to flag rank and assumed the duties of deputy director, Strategy, Plans and Policy of the U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany. Following his tour in Germany, he was assigned as commander, *Abraham Lincoln* Strike Group. His next

assignment was commander, Naval Air Forces Atlantic Fleet and then reported for his final tour as the assistant chief of naval operations, Next Generation Enterprise Network.

His decorations include the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, as well as numerous unit commendations and awards.

Goodwin retired from active duty in June 2010 after 35 years of service. He is currently employed by Auburn University as director, Nuclear Power Generation Systems Program in the College of Engineering.

Last updated: 12 January 2022