



**CAPTAIN**  
**ROBERT C. KLOSTERMAN**  
**Commanding Officer**

Captain Klosterman was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. After attending Ohio State University for a year, he received an appointment to the U. S. Naval Academy and graduated with the class of 1969.

Captain Klosterman was designated a Naval Aviator in October 1970 at NAS Kingsville, Texas. Transitioning to helicopters, he spent April 1971 through March 1972 with Helicopter Attack (Light)

Squadron 3 flying UH-1B gunships in Vietnam. After flying over 440 combat missions, Captain Klosterman returned as a flight instructor with VT-9 at Meridian, Mississippi, and served as Director of Flight Training and Operations Officer through 1975. Completing A-7E Replacement Pilot training in December 1975, Captain Klosterman served his junior officer and department head tours in VA-86 (USS NIMITZ) as well as two instructor pilot tours in VA-174. He joined Attack Squadron 46 as Executive Officer in June 1984 and took command in January 1986. During this tour, VA-46 participated in Sixth Fleet combat operations against Libya from USS AMERICA, completed IOC of the HARM weapons system and was awarded the COMNAVAIRLANT Battle "E".

Captain Klosterman completed Naval Nuclear Power Training in December 1988 and was Executive Officer of USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) from June 1989 to April 1991. This tour included Red Sea operations in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD. After a tour as Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations and Readiness on the staff of Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, he reported in February 1992 as Commanding Officer, USS LA SALLE (AGF 3), flagship of Commander, U. S. Naval Forces Central Command. Under his command, LA SALLE participated in numerous Arabian Gulf multi-national exercises; providing command, control and intelligence support for continued DESERT STORM operations as well as Operations RESTORE HOPE and SOUTHERN WATCH and retaliatory strikes against Iraq.

Captain Klosterman has accumulated over 5800 flight hours and over a thousand carrier arrested landings. He is currently qualified in the F/A-18 Hornet aircraft. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, three Meritorious Service Medals, fifteen Air Medals, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, the Combat Action Ribbon, and various other campaign awards and ribbons. He was the recipient of the 1986 COMLATWING ONE Pat Anderson Award for weapons delivery excellence and completed his Masters Degree with Central Michigan University.

Captain Klosterman became the Commanding Officer of Precommissioning Unit JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74) on 15 November 1993. He became the first Commanding Officer of USS JOHN C. STENNIS on 9 December 1995. He is married to the former Rebecca Coffield of Virginia Beach, Virginia. They and their son Todd reside in Norfolk, Virginia.