

Captain S. Robert Roth USS Cleveland

Captain S. Robert Roth was born in Summit, New Jersey. He graduated from Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, receiving a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1982. He earned a master's degree in Business Administration from the Florida Institute of Technology in 1999.

Captain Roth earned his commission from Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida, in 1986. After earning his wings, he served as a flight instructor with VT-25 for two years in Beeville, Texas. He completed his FA-18 Hornet initial training at VMFAT-101, Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California.

His first sea duty was with the "Privateers" of VFA-132 as the Aircraft Division Officer and Assistant Operations Officer. In 1992, he joined the "Golden Warriors" of VFA-87 and served as the NATOPS

Officer, Quality Assurance Officer, and air wing-qualified Landing Signals Officer. Captain Roth completed deployments on USS FORRESTAL (CV 59) and USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71), and participated in Operations Provide Comfort and Deny Flight. From 1994 to 1997, Captain Roth attended U.S. Naval Test Pilot School and served in a follow-on assignment as an Ordnance Test Pilot at Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Maryland.

In 1997, Captain Roth transferred to the "Knighthawks" of VFA-136, where he performed Department Head duties in administration, maintenance, and operations while deployed aboard USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74). Captain Roth then attended the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, where he received his master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies, graduating with highest distinction.

Captain Roth was assigned to Commander Naval Air Forces, Atlantic, as a flag aide from 1999 to 2000. He then joined the VFA-34 "Blue Blasters" in 2001 and served as executive officer and commanding officer. The squadron deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom onboard USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73).

After attending the Joint Forces Staff College, Captain Roth joined U.S. Joint Forces Command and served as an observer trainer, participating in several combatant command exercises and headquarters assistance visits including Multi-National Force Iraq, Baghdad and Joint Task Force Horn of Africa, Djibouti. He completed nuclear propulsion training in December 2007 and reported to USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH (CVN 77), where he served as Executive Officer from March 2008 to April 2010. In July 2010, he assumed command of USS CLEVELAND (LPD 7).

Captain Roth has flown more than 3,500 flight hours and has logged more than 800 carrier landings. His awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, three Meritorious Service Medals, two Strike Flight Medals, three Navy Commendation Medals, two Navy Achievement Medals, and several Unit and Campaign Awards.

