



Tom Joyce

Retired Navy Captain Tom Joyce recently retired from pastoral ministry at Immanuel Bible Church in Springfield, Virginia, in the shadow of the nation's capital.

Raised on Long Island and recruited as a lacrosse player, Tom graduated from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis in 1979. After completing Naval Flight Officer training, he was selected to fly as a RIO ("back-seater") in the F-14A Tomcat and later graduated from the Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN) in 1983. Two years later, Tom was selected to fly in scenes of the movie "Top Gun." After several operational tours in fighter squadrons, Tom reported to Fighter Squadron One-Eleven as Commanding Officer onboard the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk. Under Tom's leadership, Fighter Squadron One-Eleven was recognized as the best Fighter Squadron in the Pacific Fleet.

Tom survived the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the Pentagon, which included his office. He retired in August 2003 after serving on active duty for over 25 years. In addition to his bachelor's degree from the United States Naval Academy, Tom earned a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University and both a Master of Biblical Studies and a Master of Divinity from Capital Bible Seminary.

Tom has accumulated over 2200 hours in the F-14A Tomcat and has made more than 600 aircraft carrier landings. His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and numerous other unit and individual awards.

Tom and his wife, Deshua, have four grown children and eight grandchildren. They live in northern Virginia.