

MATTHEW HEATHCOAT | USN

// Maintenance Master Chief (AW)

Maintenance Master Chief (Aviation Warfare) Matthew Heathcoat is a native of Bradford, Illinois, and graduated from Bradford High School in 1988. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in June 1988 and completed Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command Great Lakes, Illinois.

Matt completed Aviation Machinist's Mate "A" School in Millington, Tennessee, and reported to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 106, the "Gladiators," at Naval Air Station (NAS) Cecil Field, Florida, for F/A-18 power plants and related systems course. Matt then reported to VFA-136, the "Knighthawks," at NAS Cecil Field, Florida in 1989. He completed two deployments aboard USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 67) in support of Operation Desert Shield.

Matt served with Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department NAS Jacksonville, Florida; Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department NAS Cecil Field; Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department NAS Oceana; and completed one deployment aboard USS George Washington (CVN 73).

Matt reported to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 122, the "Golden Eagles," located in Lemoore, California, in February 2002 where he was promoted to Chief Petty Officer in 2004. He then reported to VFA-2, the "Bounty Hunters," and completed two deployments aboard USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

He then reported to the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit in Lemoore, California, where he was promoted to Senior Chief Petty Officer and earned his bachelor's degree in Professional Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in 2008.

Matt reported to VFA-22, the "Fighting Redcocks," and deployed aboard USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) in 2012. After the deployment, he was promoted to Master Chief Petty Officer and reported again to VFA-2 to serve as Maintenance Master Chief. He then reported to Carrier Air Wing 9 in October 2014 and served as the Carrier Air Group Maintenance Master Chief, completing one deployment aboard USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74).

Matt joined the Blue Angels in October 2016. His decorations include two Meritorious Service Medals, two Navy Commendation Medals, four Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and various personal and unit awards.

