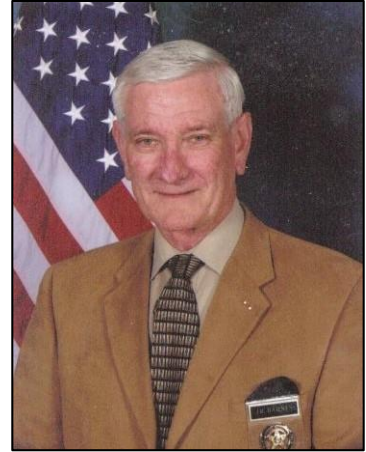


## John R. "Barney" Barnes, CDR, USN (ret)



Commander Barnes grew up in East Tennessee and graduated from Carson-Newman College (University) in 1968. Barney then joined the Navy as an Aviation Cadet earning his commission as a Naval Officer in April of 1969. He then completed his flight training, earning his navy "wings of gold" in April of 1970. Commander Barnes first assignment was to Helicopter Attack Squadron Three where he flew 507 combat missions in support of Navy SEAL teams, Swift Boats, and other allied units in the Vietnam War. His squadron, known as *The Seawolves*, was the highest decorated Navy squadron of the Vietnam War.

During his 25-year Navy career, Barney logged almost 4000 flight hours in a variety of fixed and rotary wing aircraft. His additional assignments included flight instructor duty; Operations Officer of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron 7 on board the John F. Kennedy CV-67; Officer-in-Charge, Combat Support Squadron Two, Detachment One, Commander Middle East Force-Head, Navy Corrections Washington DC; and the first Commanding Officer of Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston, SC.

After his retirement from the Navy, Barney served as Director of the Tuscaloosa Metropolitan Detention Facility, Tuscaloosa, AL; Criminal Justice Consultant with the Wexler Group, Washington, DC; Commanding Officer 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion South Carolina State Guard; and Chief of Staff with the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office near Charleston, SC.

Since his retirement from the Sheriff's Office in 2009, Barney founded Warrior Spirit Ministries and has been involved with various leadership development and mentoring programs. In 2012 he published his first book called *Born To Be a Warrior* based upon his life in the warrior culture. He demonstrates the symbiotic relationship of the natural order with the spiritual and how understanding this relationship contributes to winning in life's numerous battles. He conducts leadership training seminars and motivational talks based upon his book and life experiences and in 2014 published an accompanying study guide.

Barney was selected by the National Coalition of Ministry to Men (NCMM) as the Emerging Ministry of the Year for 2014. His second book called *The Sacred Art of Leadership* is at the publisher and is expected to be released later this year.

Barney and Pat, his wife of 46 years, have resided in Summerville, SC since 1988. They are active members of Faith Assembly, a dynamic congregation that has established five campus locations in the Charleston, SC area.