

## COMMANDER R. DEANE WOODS, USN (RET)

Born in Idaho, September 1936, Commander Woods grew up on a farm in Missouri, until graduating from high school in 1954. After attending the University of Kansas for one and one half years, he enlisted in the Navy in February 1957, and subsequently was accepted for flight training as a Naval Aviation Cadet. He was designated a Naval Aviator in June 1959. His first tour of duty was in VAW-11, flying the EA-1E, where he completed a cruise and became the squadron's LSO. He left active duty in 1962 to attend the University of Kansas, graduating in June 1965, with a B.S. degree in mechanics and aerospace engineering. He also was a member of Tau Beta Phi and president of Sigma Gamma Tau engineering societies. Concurrently, he served with Naval Reserve Squadron VR-881, at NAS Olathe, Kansas. In the fall of 1965, Commander Woods returned to active duty, completed refresher training in the A-1 *Skyraider* with VA-122 and subsequently was assigned to VA-25. He deployed to the Tonkin Gulf aboard USS *Coral Sea* (CVA-43) in July 1966. On October 12, 1966, he was shot down south of Than Hoa, North Vietnam, and after two days evading, was captured by North Vietnamese soldiers. He remained a POW until freed in March 1973. After returning to the United States, he remained on active duty, transitioned to jets, and obtained his Master's degree with distinction from Naval Post Graduate School in 1976. He retired from the Navy in 1980, entered Law School and obtained his J.D. from the University of Kansas in 1983. A member of the Indiana Bar since 1984, his practice concentrates on Defense Litigation, Workers' Compensation Defense and Appellate Practice. Commander Woods married Sheryn Huckino, the girl who wore his POW bracelet, in 1973. They have a son, Matthew, an engineer with Northrop Grumman, and a daughter, Kendi, a Chicago attorney.