

MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON OF THE YEAR



THE ROBERT M. HANSON AWARD

Presented by THE MARINE CORPS AVIATION ASSOCIATION to

Established in Memory of
Medal of Honor Recipient
 Captain Robert M. Hanson, USMC,
 Fighter Ace, Killed During WWII
 After Shooting Down
 25 Enemy Aircraft.

In Recognition of the Most
 Outstanding Fighter Attack Squadron
 in Marine Aviation.

VMFA-232



THE BOEING COMPANY

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|-------------------|---------------|
| 2010 VMFA-112 | 1988 VMFA-115 |
| 2009 VMFA-122 | 1987 VMFA-115 |
| 2008 VMFA-232 | 1986 VMFA-323 |
| 2007 VMFA(AW)-242 | 1985 VMFA-212 |
| 2006 VMFA(AW)-332 | 1984 VMFA-112 |
| 2005 VMFA(AW)-242 | 1983 VMAT-101 |
| 2004 VMFA-312 | 1982 VMFA-115 |
| 2003 VMFA-323 | 1981 VMFA-235 |
| 2002 VMFA-251 | 1980 VMFA-323 |
| 2001 VMFA(AW)-121 | 1979 VMFA-333 |
| 2000 VMFA(AW)-332 | 1978 VMFA-531 |
| 1999 VMFA-312 | 1977 VMFA-112 |
| 1998 VMFA-122 | 1976 VMFA-323 |
| 1997 VMFA-312 | 1975 VMFA-323 |
| 1996 VMFA-232 | 1974 VMFA-232 |
| 1995 VMFA(AW)-332 | 1973 VMFA-333 |
| 1994 VMFA-312 | 1972 VMFA-115 |
| 1993 VMFA-312 | 1971 VMFA-115 |
| 1992 VMFA(AW)-242 | 1970 VMFA-212 |
| 1991 VMFA-235 | 1969 VMFA-251 |
| 1990 VMFA-115 | 1968 VMFA-314 |
| 1989 VMFA-451 | |



Award Citation

VMFA-232 set a new standard for tactical aviation excellence during Enhanced Mohave Viper 3-10 and Operation Enduring Freedom 10.2. As the first F/A-18 squadron land-based in Afghanistan, the Red Devils under the call sign of "Stoic", employed over 71,000 pounds of ordnance and in excess of 20,000 rounds of 20mm ammunition, working targets within 40 to 300 meters of friendly forces, such a degree of trust was established that VMFA-232 was repeatedly requested, by name, by Battalions in contact with the battlecry "Stoics bring the rain" echoing over the radio. In the course of six months the Red Devils supported over 1850 Joint Tactical Air Requests, totaling over 4,900 tactical hours in 1,700 plus combat sorties. Working hand-in-hand with Marine and International Security Assistance Forces in the Helmand and Kandahar regions, the Red Devils greatly contributed to ushering in a state of security. Through dedication to duty and unmatched sense of purpose and mission, the Marines and Sailors of VMFA-232 reflected great credit upon themselves and upheld the highest traditions of Marine Corps aviation.



21 May 2011