



VMFAT-502

Command Philosophy

Communicate

Proper and effective communication is necessary for us to accomplish our mission of conducting core introduction fighter/attack training to meet Marine Corps manning requirements. When communication fails we run the risk of working without direction. When that happens we will quickly lose sight of the bigger picture. It is important that all leaders push information down to their Marines. It is equally important that all Marines push information up the chain of command. With effective communication we can focus our efforts as a team and accomplish things that no individual could accomplish on their own.

Small Victories Matter

We will have to work hard in this squadron and there are times when the mission in front of us will seem massive. I assure you; we can accomplish it! Focus on what is in your control at your level and doing your job well. Set daily goals for yourself. At the end of the week those small daily goals will lead to large accomplishments.

Invest in Yourself

Ensuring that we are physically, mentally, and spiritually ready to execute our mission is of utmost importance. Just like a house requires a strong foundation to weather a storm, we need to have strong foundations to ensure we are prepared to execute our duties. Invest time in making sure you are physically fit. Put forth effort to continue to grow mentally by reading and completing PME. Understand what you as a person need spiritually and make a plan to ensure you are getting that. Do not neglect your family. Our families can be one of the best support structures available to us.

Protect Your Brothers and Sisters

The five stars on our squadron patch are in the shape of a constellation called *The Shield*. Like a shield, there will be times when we are required to assist and protect our fellow squadron members. We all encounter tough times but having a support structure and someone to count on is how we get through those tough times. If you are struggling with an issue, reach out to your squadron mates or your chain of command. If you notice one of your squadron mates encountering challenges, be proactive and help them out. One of the most important things that separates us from a civilian organization is our commitment to each other as Marines. Don't neglect that commitment to your brothers and sisters, and don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it.

We are capable of accomplishing great things in this squadron, both at the individual and the unit level. I'm proud to be a Flying Nightmare and I'm proud to work with each and every one of you!

Adam D. Wellington
Lieutenant Colonel, USMC
Commanding Officer