


## Gary Wayne Poplin



Gary Wayne Poplin entered the United States Navy 7 November 1965. After completing basic training in San Diego, he was ordered to "A" school at Skaggs Island, California (bay area) where he completed CT"R" (Collection) school in 1966. He was assigned to United States Security Group Activity at Kama Seya, Japan in January 1967, but was immediately transferred to Naval Security Group Detachment at Misawa AFB (Japan). While assigned to this duty station Mr. Poplin was advanced to CTR2 (E-5) as a tactical air analyst. Petty Officer Poplin was released from active duty in November 1968, but remained in the Naval Reserve. Gary was selected and promoted to Chief Petty Officer Cryptologic Technician (Collection) in 1972. Mr. Poplin attended Southern Methodist University during evenings from 1969 until 1973. In 1982, Chief Poplin was assigned a mobilization billet to the National Security Agency, Fort George G. Meade (Maryland). Chief Poplin was selected Senior Chief Cryptologic Technician (Collection), CTRCS in 1985. He served as an intelligence research writer with his mobilization billet at NSA. NSA recalled him to active duty during Desert Storm. He retired from the Navy in 1995, as the Command Senior Chief of Naval Reserve Security Group 111, Dallas. Senior Chief Poplin's awards include The Defense Meritorious Service Medal, awarded by NSA. His career assignments qualify him to be carried on the roles as NSA retired and was recognized with honors. Senior Chief Poplin served 1967/1968 active duty, and the balance of 29+ years as a selected reserve. (NSA content approved by N5P52 S.L Boyd, Ops 2B8118)

In 1972 Mr. Poplin began civilian flight training. In 1976 he completed his training and worked as a flight instructor. In 1977 he left flight instruction and worked as a First Officer for Falcon Airways. He was type rated in DC-4's and promoted to Captain. Captain Poplin flew extensively throughout Europe and South America until 1979, when he left the airline industry and entered corporate flying. Captain Poplin is the Director of Flight Operations and Chief Pilot for a Dallas based company operating a Raytheon 350 King Air. He has held that position for more than 24 years. He holds a US Airline Transport Rating and type ratings in both the B-350 and DC-4. He additionally holds instructor ratings: instrument, single and multi-engine.

When Mr. Poplin retired from the Naval Reserve Program, he became active in The American Legion as well as the Texas National Cemetery Commission/Foundation. In recent years he was responsible for coordinating the efforts of the Veterans Community for the display of The Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Moving Wall, the entire choreography of the groundbreaking for The Dallas - Fort Worth National Cemetery. His expertise in producing events is well known throughout the area. Mr. Poplin's leadership skills and efforts have earned him the reputation as one of the most respected leaders in the veteran's community. He served six years as Public Affairs Officer for The American Legion Fifth District (Dallas County) and currently serves as Judge Advocate to Post 111 as well as the Fifth District, Department of Texas. He served over 14 years as Adjutant and as Post Commander from 2005/2007 for Post 111 in Cedar Hill, Texas. Mr. Poplin attended and completed [The American Legion Extension Institute Course](#) and [The American Legion, Department of Texas Legion College](#). Mr. Poplin is the Chairman, Texas National Cemetery Foundation and Director of Operations. He has directed with oversight from the DFW National Cemetery Director, every special event at the Dallas – Fort Worth National Cemetery since the cemetery dedication. Mr. Poplin holds the Foundation's Distinguished Service Medal, and continues to receive recognition for his leadership. He was selected to the Secretary of the Navy's Retiree Council in 2007, where he served thru 2011.

Mr. Poplin currently resides with his wife Lori and the family dogs Radar and Echo in Garland, Texas. Mr. Poplin has two grown sons, Jason Trent Poplin and Tristan Kirk Poplin.

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