

Former resident promoted to captain in United States Navy

Written by Wauneta Breeze

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U.S. Navy Capt. Lee Anne Vitatoe, left, had the honor of having her father, John Green, administer her oath of office during her promotion ceremony in September. Green is a retired U.S. Navy captain. John and wife Joan reside in Oxford, Ohio. All are former Wauneta residents. (Courtesy Photo)

By Russ Pankonin

The Imperial Republican

Former Wauneta resident Lee Anne (Green) Vitatoe was promoted to the rank of captain in the U.S. Navy this fall.

Capt. Vitatoe's father, John Green of Oxford, Ohio, had the privilege of administering the oath of office to her on Sept. 1. Green is a retired U.S. Navy Captain.

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Vitaoe attended Wauneta Public Schools from kindergarten through her sophomore year.

After graduating from Talawanda High School in Oxford, Ohio in 1989, she attended college at Miami University in Oxford. There, she obtained her bachelor's degree in 1993 in Health Appraisal and Enhancement.

She also finished at the top of her Naval ROTC class at Oxford. Upon her selection to the Navy's Medical Service Corps, she continued schooling at Miami, receiving a master's degree in exercise science in 1994.

In May, 1994, she went on active duty and after completing initial flight training, she was designated an operational aerospace physiologist.

From May 1997 to July 2001, she served as aeromedical safety officer for 26 Atlantic F-14 Tomcat and F/A-18 squadrons. She was responsible for training in night vision, laser safety, survival radio and deployment training.

From August, 2001 to June 2005, she served on the Marine Helicopter Squadron One, based in Quantico, Va. As the only non-pilot in the unit, she was assigned as the White House advance officer and led 36 trips for President George W. Bush.

Other duties since then include serving as the program manager for fleet support for aerial operations; director of the Aviation Survival Training Center in Norfolk, Va.; and currently the deputy force surgeon and lead medical planner at the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command in Norfolk.

She and her husband, David, have two children, Nico age 7, and Luca 4. They reside in Virginia Beach, Va.