



Captain John Pittman, Honor Pilot, United States of America, 2017



John on the right

Videos: [Interview 1](#) [Swim 1](#) [Swim 2 at 1:40](#)

Captain John Pittman received his Captain's license in 1978 and began piloting with "WILD WAVE". Catalina Channel swimming started to really take off in the mid-1980s. John and his IMSHOF Honoree father Captain Mickey Pittman continued for 15 more years before retiring in the late 1990s. John christened the new "OUTRIDER" in late 2006 and piloted 17 swimmers in 2007. During the years 2011 to 2015 he escorted 30+ swimmers a year and retired in 2016.

The Pittmans were involved in many "first" solos and relay swims – helping to set the groundwork for the future Santa Barbara Channel Swimming Association: Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, Santa Barbara. San Clemente and Coronado Islands.

[Expanded Biography \(Openwaterpedia\)](#)