

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION

SHIPMATE

SEPTEMBER 2021



65/66 CLASS NEWS

Dave Schlesinger. Representing four Fulton family generations of naval service to the Nation, Harry IV reports to Pensacola this summer for pilot training while Gabe spends youngster summer with a MAGTF at Camp Lejeune and New River and then in San Diego on PROTRAMID.

I don't think we are thru yet. There are two other grandsons who have expressed an interest.



From **Ron Bishop**, 02 Jun

✉ While USA is trying to resume with a new-normal, the Tidewater USNA '65 Lunch Bunch returned to the Egg Bistro on Kempsville Road for the second luncheon of the new season on June 01. **Ron Voelkel** is back organizing and planning the monthly luncheons as before COVID days some 16 months ago. The following attendees were present: **Mike Artherholt, Bob Beauchamp, Bob Finley, Mike Hester, Carl Spangler, Ron Voelkel, and Dick Williams.** The Lunch Bunch meets first Tues of every month at 1130 until roughly 1230 at an Egg Bistro in Chesapeake or in the Upton Shopping Center of Va Beach. So when in the area or for a change of dining view call Ron Voelkel at 737-377-1268 for latest details of where and when. Ron

From **Phil Ferrara**, 02 Jun

✉ Twenty-one '65ers assembled for lunch at the Saloon on 02 Jun - **John Collins, Phil Ferrara, Charlie Morrison, Frank Peterson, Ted Nanz, Sim Pace, Dan Flanagan, Fred Vogel, Bob Andretta, Moke DeMatta, Doug Norton, Tom Kinder, Carter Refo, Bill Matton, Art Wittig, Dan Mitchell, Jeff Gaugush, Denny Wedekind, Jim Minderlein, Skip Orr, and Bob Green.** As our lunch gathering numbers increased back to the norm, all got a charge out of being

together again. Jim gave us an update on the Ricketts Hall sports exhibits and our nine sports legends from '65. Ted gave a Memorial Day testimonial to our classmates who served in Vietnam and were killed or wounded. Here is a photo of Jim and Sim during the Class President update. Phil



From **Bob Stanfield**, 03 Jun

✉ It has been a long time since checking in with you. Here is a photo of Kris and me with a couple of '93 USNA grads, Todd and Terry Dudley, with whom we crossed paths at a Hobee's restaurant in Palo Alto, CA last weekend. They are twins, actually two of a set of triplets, with a sister being the third part of that threesome. We had a fun chat and shared several sea stories of our Navy careers. Kris and I are both retired and staying active with community and church activities. I have been playing accordion with two musical groups, a Norwegian folk dance ensemble and also lead an oompah/polka band of seven members. We are finally seeing the Covid restrictions ease up (June) here in California. Nice to get out and rejoin the community. Bob



From **Phil Ferrara**, 11 Jun

✉ During our three-week June road trip through 14 states we stopped in Denver for four days to visit our

daughter. On arrival we rendezvoused with **Laddie Coburn** and **John Owens** for lunch in a downtown favorite of John's. Linda listened to old tales being retold, and we had a great time catching up together. All are looking forward to '65's 56th palindrome reunion. In the photo are Laddie, Phil and John.



From **Jim Wilson**, 20 Jun

✉ CAPT(Ret.) **Denny** and **Karen McComb** honored **Jim** and **Alice Wilson** for being trailblazers in the initial Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine trials. Denny said it took Jim 78 years to get his "ACT" together as his T-shirt shows. ACT stands for Anaheim Clinical Trials. The Wilson's welcomed the McCombs to their new home in Southern California.



From **Phil Ferrara**, 25 Jun

✉ A funeral service was held for **Gordy White** at the USNA Chapel on Thursday, 24 Jun. In attendance were many '65 classmates and their spouses plus a large contingent of his 32nd Company classmates. A stirring and heartfelt eulogy was given by **Roger Smith** who was Gordy's long time roommate. Roger left all of us with a gentle smile of gratitude on our faces. Following the Chapel service we travelled to the cemetery for the inurnment and the formal military ceremony. Upon conclusion all gathered again at the Naval Academy Club for refreshments and camaraderie. '65ers present were **Barbara White,**

Roger and **Annamelia Smith,** **Jim** and **Frances Jenkins,** **Moke** and **Michele DeMatta,** **Mike Scott,** **Dave Schlesinger,** **Jim** and **Diann Minderlein,** **Frog** and **Sam Kristensen,** **Wyman** and **Susy Howard,** **Phil** and **Linda Ferrara,** **Bob Andretta,** **Forrest Horton** and **Ted Nanz.**



Thazzit, guys! Aloha, Dave

'66

Life Membership: 65%
Donor Participation: 18.65%

Pres: **Gen Carlton W. Fulford, USMC (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **CDR Mike Baird, USN (Ret.)**
10439 Rivington Ct., Lone Tree, CO 80124
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Murrieta, CA 92562

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Wow! September already! Looks like football games will be fully attended and tailgates are on again. Great news for everyone. Not a huge amount of news this issue, but there is some, so here we go.

Chuck Grutzius continues to lead the efforts on behalf of the Class Leadership Awards for HUE CITY (CG-66) and GONZALEZ (DDG-66). Here is the latest on HUE CITY.

✉ The Leadership Award for the Enlisted Person on HUE CITY was made on Thursday, 15 July 2021, on board HUE CITY at Norfolk Naval Station. **Pierce Johnson** made the presentation. We make an award for a Junior Officer since there are only two officers assigned to HUE CITY during her three-year Modernization Program. There are currently 34 Enlisted Personnel assigned to HUE CITY. The Chief's Mess and CO selected a very deserving GM2 for the Leadership Award. Also, the



'66: DAVE, DENISE, MIKE, AND MARLENE

current Navy budget submitted to DOD and the White House does not include money to continue HUE CITY's modernization program, the Navy again is proposing to decommission HUE CITY. The Navy proposed to decommission HUE CITY previously, but Congress did not agree.

The ceremonies for GONZALEZ were slated for mid-August to early September. The ship was supposed to decide on the date by mid-August. Class President **Carl Fulford** is scheduled to officiate. I'll have more on both ships' ceremonies in a later issue.

Sadly, I report the deaths of **John Ling** (13) and Linda Caldwell, wife of **Dwight Caldwell** (35). John Ling died 20 May 2021. A Class-wide email with his obituary was sent. A memorial service was held 19 June 2021. Linda Caldwell died 29 May 2021. A memorial service was held at the Missouri National Veteran's Museum in Perryville, MO. Classmates attending with Dwight were **Bob Spooner**, Nancy and **Tom Petillo** and **George Becker**. Please keep both families in your prayers.

On 7 May 2021, services were held for **Mike Cuddington** (17). **Dave Lovelady** provided a copy of the very moving eulogy Marlene Mervine, long-time companion of Mike, delivered at the service. It is too long to include here but has been added to the bio information for Mike on the Class web site,

usna66.org. She also provided a picture of Denise and **Dave Lovelady** and Marlene with **Mike Cuddington** taken at a Navy tailgate event. Many thanks to Dave.

Carl Fulford forwarded an email from CAPT **Paul Tortora**, USN (Ret.) ('89). Paul is the Director, Cyber Security Studies at USNA. Here's the text.

✉ We successfully completed our cyber trip to Estonia - thank you again for you and your class's support for our cyber efforts. Here is a link to a PAO article summarizing the trip, please feel free to share with your classmates: <https://spark.adobe.com/page/qaJu7Utoo5Blb/>. You can view the article by entering the link into your browser. The link is also posted on the Class web site.

Linda McCook (**Kevin McCook**) has additional information for wives of deceased Classmates who would like to join her "Sail on Solo" group. Here is her update.

✉ "We are a group of '66 wives of deceased Classmates who would like to maintain contact with the Naval Academy, a particularly important part of our husbands' lives. Although we come from different parts of the country and different circumstances, we share a unique bond with each other. Therefore, we have established a network to form friendships and offer mutual support, helpful advice, useful information and comfortable camaraderie to one another.

All '66 wives of deceased Classmates are welcome to join our group. We connect primarily through emails, texts, notes, cards or calls and a Zoom meeting on the first Monday of the month at 4 pm (EDT or EST time). We look forward to opportunities to meet in person, either at a tailgate or reunion in Annapolis "where Severn joins the tide" or perhaps in other locales "when two or three shall meet, and old tales be retold." In this way we hope to keep the ties that bind us to the Navy Blue and Gold.

If you are interested in being included in our '66 Sail On Solo group, please send your contact information to: Linda McCook at limccook@gmail.com." Thanks, Linda.

Finally, anyone still wanting to attend the FL Comearound from 27 to 30 October, there are still spaces available. Please contact **Wayne Lynn** at: wlynn66@gmail.com. Until October—All the best—Mike!!!

'67

Life Membership: 76%
Donor Participation: 25.89%

Pres: **CDR David E. Church, USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **LtCol Jim McNeece, USMC (Ret.)**

1603 John Worthington Way,
Crownsville, MD 21032
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Don Priest sent the word that **Jim Potts** had passed away on 30 May 2021 from pancreatic cancer. After graduating with us, Jim went nuclear power and served on THOMAS A. EDISON (SSBN-610). He left the Navy in 1973 and went to work for PEPCO for 33 years. He retired in 2006 as PEPCO's Vice President of Environmental Health and Safety and worked on various nonprofit boards when he wasn't doing home improvement projects, working out, playing drums, hiking and traveling. He was known as a driver for positive change. He will be remembered as a man of faith and moral integrity.

Jim is survived by Barbara, his wife of 53 years, sons Jim and Jonathon, daughter Angela, six grandchildren and four brothers.

Jim will be inurned in Arlington National Cemetery. We're in touch with Barbara and will pass the word when information on his services becomes available. Barbara's address is: 1316 Swan Harbour Road, Fort Washington, MD 20744.

Buzz Lawlor sent a remembrance:

✉ Jim and I graduated from the same high school (Silver Spring, MD) in 1963. Jim was very smart and very popular. He graduated at or very near the top of our graduating class. Jim will be dearly missed. Sincere condolences to Barbara and family.

I talked to Mary Barrett, **Jim Barrett's** widow. She told me that on 22 May 2021 they took a boat out to the mouth of the Severn River where it feeds into the Chesapeake Bay and scattered Jim's ashes as he had wished. It was a small family event. Everyone contributed to memories of Jim. She said it was a wonderful experience. So... Jim Barrett now rests "where the Severn meets the tide."

We received word that **Tom Allen**, a non-graduating Classmate, died on 9 June 2021. Tom, a former Marine, left USNA in the fall of 1965. He worked in the aerospace industry for over 40 years before retiring as the CEO from Selmet, Inc., a manufacturer of complex titanium castings and machined components for the aerospace and defense industries, in 2012. Tom, who lived in Salem, OR is survived by his six children and five grandchildren. He enjoyed spending his time backpacking, mountain climbing, skiing, golfing and watching all sports. In lieu of a service, his wishes were to have his ashes spread where he used to backpack at Mt. Jefferson. Donations in his honor may be made to the Union Gospel Mission of Salem, OR (<https://ugmsalem.org/>).

A bunch of us, mostly from the Annapolis area, attended a sort of combination Dark Ages/I-Day observance with an afternoon lunch at the Severn Inn restaurant. The event was produced by **Dick Meade**, who moved us inside from what would have been a sweltering

COMING EVENTS

2nd Tuesday of each month:
Monthly Board of Directors' Meetings.
All other events are TBD.

Please check your email and the
GSMC website www.navyalummi.org
for all event updates throughout
the remainder of 2021!

Massachusetts

Boston Chapter

Pres: **James Kras '69**
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Shipmate contact: **CAPT Pete Seibert '65**
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BGO Area Coordinator (Boston and SE Mass)
Kimber Johnson
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BGO Area Coordinator (N Shore and
Central Mass) - **CDR David Grim**
e: david.grim@1982.usna.com
BGO Area Coordinator (Western Mass):
Mike Cousins
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Michigan

Detroit Chapter

Pres: **Maj. Joe Zane '07 USMCR**
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Vice Pres: **Shawn Hoch '08**
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Website: <http://detroit.usnachapters.net>
Communications Sec'y: **Chris Bernard '88**
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BGO Area Coordinator (Eastern)
CAPT Michael Johnson '79, USNR
mj007mj@hotmail.com
BGO Area Coordinator (West & Upper):
Col. Benjamin Richmond '93, USMCR
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Just a quick update this month.
Time is moving steadily forward,
and that means more midshipmen
from Michigan are starting their
Naval Academy careers. The USNA
Parents Club of Michigan, led by
President MJ Berklich, hosted a virtual
"Welcome Aboard" event on
June 13th, 2021. While the in-person
event would have been great, the
virtual format enabled families from
across the state to attend (see picture).
A total of 17 Michigan Midshipmen
started at USNA this summer.
We're hoping their Plebe year will

be closer to normal than the last
two years!



Joe Zane '07, Rick Fresquez '85 and Art
Bryant, '66, at the June 30th Defense
Entrepreneurs Forum event

Since the June 13th event, things are
starting to open up in Michigan, and
we're working on building a regular
slate of in-person events. As of the
time of this writing (July 1st, 2021),
we send out our first in-person invite
in this case to an June 30th event
hosted by the local chapter of the
Defense Entrepreneur's Forum.
Overall turnout was robust (~25),
with 3 USNA Alumni in attendance
(see above picture). By the time
you're reading this, our second
in-person event, scheduled for July 29th,

should have already occurred,
hosted by Mike Droogleever '05, on
his boat The Nauti-Buoy. Keep an
eye out on the next issue for
pictures and look to e-mail and
social media for information on
other upcoming events.

I hope to see everyone at an
in-person event soon!
Joe Zane, '07, President

Minnesota
Upper Midwest Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Ashley Fischer '11, USMCR**
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Shipmate Contact: **Nathan CW Smith '98**
e: nathancwsmith@outlook.com
Website: www.USNAUpperMidwest.org
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BGO Area Coordinator:
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Mississippi

BGO Area Coordinator: **David Price '78**
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South Mississippi Chapter
Pres: **CDR E. Spencer Garrett IV '88, USNR**
P.O. Box 1792, Gautier, MS 39553
p: 228-497-5050; e: esgarrett44@aol.com
Sec'y: **CAPT Harry J. Rucker '73, USN (Ret.)**
e: navynomad50@caldeone.net

Missouri
**Greater Kansas City
Metro Chapter**

Pres: **Bob Culler '74**
p: 913-488-6319; e: bculler@sbcglobal.net
Vice Pres: **Victor Hurlbert '10**
p: 816-665-1647; e: vhurlbert@wradvisors.com
Treas: **Jack Rush '73**
e: jackrush7376@gmail.com
Website: <http://KansasCity.usnachapters.com>
BGO Area Coordinator: **Lee Gilgour**
e: Gilgour42@gmail.com

St. Louis Chapter

Pres: **Dave Turnbaugh '89**
Website:
<https://stlusna.000webhostapp.com/index.html>
Shipmate contact: **Raese Simpson '61**
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c: 314-757-1221; e: raese1961@gmail.com
BGO Area Coordinator:
CAPT Kent Higginbotham '76, USN (Ret.)
e: kenth@hbistl.com

Montana

BGO Area Coordinator:
Andy Metroka
e: METROKA@MT.NET



Detroit Chapter: The USNA Parents Club of Michigan hosted a virtual Welcome Aboard for the new Michigan midshipmen.



Central Virginia Chapter: 2025 Appointee, Stephen Smith '25 - flanked by alumni and fellow midshipman Saige Haney '22



Hampton Roads Chapter: "Meet and Greet" with YP Summer Training Block 1 Midshipmen



Cebtrak Vurgini Chapter: Central VA Alumni and Support Team

Virginia

Central Virginia Chapter

Pre: **Bill Murray '83**

e: whmurray34@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Ty Schieber '87**

e: ty.schieber@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Ed Borger '80**

e: ed.borger@honeywell.com

Treas: **Steve Hill '74**

e: swhill74@cstone.net

BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Aldridge**

e: n774pk@gmail.com

On Saturday, June 12th, the Central Virginia Chapter had the opportunity to celebrate our appointee to the Class of 2025, **Stephen Smith '25** of Albemarle High School, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Stephen and his parents, Nathan and Melody Smith were our guests at Burton's Grill in The Shops at Stonefield in Charlottesville. We also took pleasure in recognizing the attendance of **Saige Haney '22**, our 2018 appointee, and Karen Farabaugh, parent of **Megan Toth '19**.

Other guests included Chris and Ames Winter, parents of our appointee from last year, **Tyce Winter '24**.

Blue and Gold Officers were represented by Don and Cheryl

Aldridge (parents of **Brent Aldridge '15** and **Emily Aldridge '15**), Amee and Mat Cantagallo, and **Michael Cathey '67**.

And last but not least, our Central Virginia Alumni Chapter was represented with the following list of faithful and their guests: **Jack Renard '55**, **Doug Zanzot '63**, Alex and Deanie Rucker (Virginia Tech grad '65), **Alan Swinger '66**, Patricia and **Michael Cathey '67**, **George Jurand '69** and Mary Sullivan, **Pat Riley '72** and Nancy Cook, **Steve Hill '74**, Tammy and **Gary Jones '75**, Mary and **Jeff Bust '75**, **Mark Metcalf '76**, Sheila and **Ed Borger '80**, **CB Morgan '83**, **Bill Murray '83**, **Emily Harman '85** and Will Murray ND '15.

Wow, what a difference a year makes, right? Last year's event confined us to Zoom so we took pleasure in finally meeting face to face our last year's appointee's parents, Chris and Ames Winter along with this year's Stephen Smith and parents Nathan and Melody Smith. Overall attendance was one for the record books, a post-pandemic 35 strong all packed into Burton's dining room enjoying each other's company after enduring 15 months of Zoom meetings and phone calls.

During the luncheon, **Gary Jones '75** gave a rousing speech that initiated the bond between his great class of 1975 and **Stephen Smith '25**, class of 2025, signifying the 50-year commitment of *Another Link in the Chain*. ALITC creates relationships between current midshipmen and members of the 50-year class counterpart throughout the four years in the Yard and beyond. Gary reminded us that midshipmen like Stephen will be buoyed and encouraged by the physical presence and moral support of the senior alumni and members of the 50-year class counterpart in their development as officers.

Congratulations, Stephen, well done, Gary, and thank you to all for being able to join in the celebration!"

Hampton Roads Chapter

Pres: **Renee Reedy '81**

e: reedy81@usnahamptonroads.com
h: 757-312-8969; w: 757-328-0030

Website: www.usnahamptonroads.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USNAHamptonRoads>

BGO Area Coordinator:

LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)

p: 757-423-8602; e: dlannetti81@gmail.com



Once Virginia's COVID restrictions were relaxed our Chapter went from dead slow to full speed ahead! Events Chair Al Ponessa '68 and his team swiftly transitioned from event cancellation mode to scheduling multiple events; and we fully expect the momentum to continue to the end of the year!

Our Memorial Day Run to Honor run/walk and our annual Plebe Recognition Dinner, are highlighted in Event Profiles elsewhere in this issue, but the list of other completed and upcoming events is lengthy and challenging - which is just the way we like it!

On 26 June **Dave Duffie '75**, assisted by **Vince Bowhens '85**, **Dick Enderly '71**, **Ken Marks '71**, and Al Ponessa orchestrated our annual Summer Barbeque Bash/Picnic at Norfolk's Captain Slade Cutter Park. Mother Nature did not fully cooperate, but despite some rainy and muggy weather, over 70 alumni and guests enjoyed a Mission BBQ-catered event as well as horseshoes, volleyball, corn hole, and a challenging trivia contest. The next day **Ted Digges '85** led a half dozen bikers on a Pedego Electric Bike tour of downtown Norfolk.

On 30 June over 50 alumni took a midday break to enjoy a luncheon in the historic Norfolk Room at the Sewells Point Golf Course. After Chapter President **Renee Reedy '81** presented a brief "State of the Chapter" report, the attendees were honored to welcome **ADM Mark Ferguson '78, USN (Ret.)**. His insightful remarks on his first month in service as Chairman, USNAAA Board of Trustees gave us an inside look at what is happening at USNA and within USNAAA in the near term; and more importantly, what he believes the future holds for the Naval Academy and its alumni.

Our real excitement was several unique opportunities to directly interact with Midshipmen! What a pleasure it was to meet and talk to

LAST CALL

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."

—Laurence Binyon, 1914

Laurence Thomas Murphy '42

1 June 2021

Joseph Philip Rogers Jr. '48

CDR, USN (Ret.)

12 July 2021

James Roger Foster '49

CAPT, USN (Ret.)

22 June 2021

John Randolph Miller '49

28 December 2020

Carl Harald Sebenius Jr. '49

CDR, USN (Ret.)

13 July 2021

John Thomas Traynor '49

11 July 2021

Leighton Robert Palmerton '50

Maj Gen, USAF (Ret.)

28 June 2021

Bernard Grossman '53

20 May 2021

Gunnar Oscar Hansen '53

10 July 2021

Arnold Joseph Orr '53

LtCol, USMC (Ret.)

16 May 2021

Rufus Edwards Rose Jr. '54 ■

CDR, USNR (Ret.)

1 July 2021

Michael John Stoffel '54 ■

CAPT, USN (Ret.)

18 June 2021

Roger Gareth Betsworth '55

17 June 2021

John Theodore Parker Jr. '55 ■

VADM, USN (Ret.)

25 June 2021

Andre Lee Jernee '56 ■

22 June 2021

Richard William Shafer '56 ■

CDR, USN (Ret.)

1 June 2021

David Alan Shelso '56

CDR, USN (Ret.)

24 June 2021

Warner Paul Basse '57

CAPT, USN (Ret.)

18 July 2021

Cleve Edgar Loman Jr. '57

CAPT, USN (Ret.)

17 July 2021

Dick Sargent '57

Col, USMCR (Ret.)

15 July 2021

John Frank Gamboa '58 ■

CAPT, USN (Ret.)

8 July 2021

William Edwin Davis

Geoghegan Jr. '58

14 June 2021

James Roger Lyons '58

CDR, USN (Ret.)

30 June 2021

James Simon Silldorff '58

1 January 2020

Harry Joseph Brock Jr. '59

15 July 2021

John Harold Knief '59 ■

5 May 2021

Lawrence Eugene Dunne '60

14 June 2021

Thomas Arthur Head '60 ■

CAPT, USN (Ret.)

15 May 2021

Charles Wells Crawford '61

LCDR, USN (Ret.)

11 July 2021

Peter Joseph Danna Jr. '61

19 July 2021

Lawrence Edward Ewert '62

CAPT, USN (Ret.)

16 July 2021

Henry Morgan Richarde Jr. '62

27 June 2021

Peter Aidan Browne '63

LCDR, USN (Ret.)

3 June 2021

Charles Natale Calvano '63

30 June 2021

Jack George Dranttel '63

Col, USAF (Ret.)

19 July 2021

James Edward Leeper Jr. '63 ■

CAPT, SC, USN (Ret.)

30 June 2021

John Sherrick McCabe '63

CDR, USNR (Ret.)

16 June 2021

Albert Oettinger Jr. '63

24 June 2021

William Louis Armstrong '64

LCDR, USN (Ret.)

18 March 2021

Ole Leigh Olsen '64

CAPT, CEC, USN (Ret.)

8 July 2021

Nicholas Albert Paldino '65

Col, USAF (Ret.)

10 July 2021

William Robert Geib '66

23 July 2021

John Joseph Kieley III '67 ■

CAPT, USN (Ret.)

6 July 2021

John Lindsey Balcom '71

22 June 2021

Steven Mark Grames '71

12 July 2021

Timothy Earl Poole '71

LCDR, USN

6 May 2021

Bruce Hood Brunson '74

3 July 2021

Jeffrey Gordon Schuller '74

CDR, USN (Ret.)

25 June 2021

Thomas Alexander Dowell '76 ■

CAPT, USN (Ret.)

4 December 2020

Raymond Elwood Bozman '77

CAPT, MC, USN

23 June 2021

Donald Christopher Forbes '81 ■

CDR, USN (Ret.)

7 July 2021

Mark Eliot Middleton '81

LCDR, USN (Ret.)

13 October 2019

Theodore Charles Wirginis '81

LCDR, USN (Ret.)

26 June 2021

Gregory Steven Tyson '82

Col, USMC (Ret.)

15 July 2021

Andrew James Lawrence Lorimer '19

LTJG, USN

29 June 2021

■ Obituary appears in this issue



This list consists of alumni deaths we have learned of since our last issue. Full obituaries will appear in Last Call if/when families send them in.



JAMES EDWARD LEEPER JR. '63

Captain James E. "Speed" Leeper Jr., USN (Ret.), died of complications of dementia on 30 June 2021. He was at home with his wife by his side.

A Navy junior, "Jim" was the son of Rear Admiral James Leeper '26, USN, and Mary "Elva" Osterheldt Leeper. A survivor of the Terrible 10th Company at USNA, he graduated with the Class of 1963.

His Navy career included service aboard THE SULLIVANS, PIEDMONT and SHENANDOAH, with shore postings at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA (where he earned two master's degrees), teaching ship building at the National Defense University and as commanding officer of the Naval Supply Depot, Guam.

His many commendations include the Legion of Merit.

Captain Leeper was a skilled private pilot and flight instructor and loved sailing the Chesapeake on his boat.

Preceded in death by his parents and his stepson, Lieutenant Leigh R. Smith, USN, he is survived by his wife of 36 years, Janet; two sisters, Patricia (Mike) and Penelope (Tim); two sons, James III and Charles; a stepson, Brewster (Molly); stepdaughter, Stacy (Jose Luis); daughter-in-law, Julie (Mike); grandsons, Leigh J, Aidan and Adrian; and granddaughter, Paulina.

He will be sorely missed by his beloved dogs, Sonny, Anna and Holli.

Always generous and kind, he will be remembered for his humor and a life of doing it all and doing it well.

Funeral service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. ★



JOE MICHAEL SAUL '64

Commander Joe M. Saul, USN (Ret.), died of ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) at Virginia Beach, VA, on 12 May 2021. He was 79 years old.

A native of Dayton, OH, Joe graduated from Marysville High School in Marysville, CA, in 1959. At the Naval Academy, he was a member of the 14th Company, Class of 1964. He was active in sports throughout his four years at USNA and was particularly known for being aggressive

on the baseball diamond.

Upon graduation, Joe spent 26 years on active duty serving in three destroyers, TRATHERN (DD-530), RUBERTUS (DD-851) and MULLINNIX (DD-944); followed by chief staff officer for DesRon 12; and surface operations officer for CTF-70 at Cubi Point. He gained a subspeciality in meteorology from the Naval Postgraduate School, subsequently serving at the Fleet Numerical Weather Center. The senior course at the Naval War College led to NATO tours at SacLant, CinCChan/CinCEastLant at Northwood, UK, and finally in Norfolk at CinCWestLant.

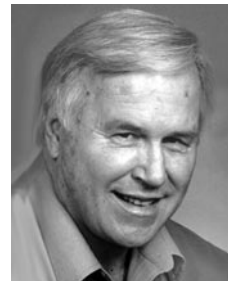
Following retirement from active duty in 1990, Joe continued working in surface warfare with Purvis Systems at Little Creek, VA, designing and executing NATO and combined forces exercises. In 2001, he continued surface warfare planning work with Northrop Grumman Information Technology in the Multinational Engagement Cell at U.S. Joint Forces Command in Suffolk, VA.

Joe was an avid fan of all San Francisco sports teams, especially his beloved Giants. He loved golf and his golfing buddies, "The Bubbas," and he enjoyed keeping connected with his fellow alumni from the USNA "Great Class of 1964," especially his 14th Companymates.

Joe is survived by his wife of 19 years, Perla H. Saul of Virginia Beach, VA; his son, James N. Saul (Alex Delucenay) of Portland, OR; his daughter, Katherine L. Saul (Micah McMillan) of Asheville, NC; and his granddaughters, Kate and Charlotte Delucenay-Saul.

Graveside services with military honors were conducted on 24 May 2021 at the Albert G. Horton Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Suffolk, VA.

Chuck Wilde '64 & The Saul Family ★



JOHN HARVEY LING '66

John H. Ling, 76, of Avon Lake, OH, passed away the evening of 20 May 2021 after being lovingly surrounded by his family during the day, from complications of Parkinson's disease. His wife, Judy, was at his side.

John was born on 23 July 1944 in Toledo, OH, to Jack and Joanna (nee Cumberworth) Ling. He attended Roger's High School in Toledo, OH, where he played three sports at the varsity level

and met his future wife, Judith Gigax.

After high school, John attended the U.S. Naval Academy (Class of 1966). He married Judy, his wife of 54 years, in the beautiful USNA Chapel just one day after his graduation. John then went on to complete flight school and served overseas at Atsugi Naval Air Station in Japan. He was a pilot in the VQ-1 Air Reconnaissance Squadron and flew the EC-121 Warning Star.

Following his service, he earned his MSIA from the Krannert Graduate School of Management at Purdue University. John rose to the position of president and CEO of several successful manufacturing companies. He was known to be a man who managed with integrity and kindness, always letting his employees feel cared for and valued.

John cherished his family and being near them was his favorite place to be. Their yearly family vacation to Lake Kabetogama in Northern Minnesota to boat and fish was so special to John and his family. He developed a love of fishing as a young man and made sure to teach his boys everything he knew.

John's faith was very important to him. He taught Confirmation and was head of the Missions Commission at his family's church. He always knew the right words to say, whether it was an encouraging word letting his family know they are always "champions" to him, to sharing his latest and greatest "dad joke," to simply putting their hearts at ease and reminding them that, "This too shall pass."

Left to cherish John's memory are his adoring wife, Judy; their children, Laura Ling, John Ling, Cindy McCrum (Ryan) and Dan Ling (Lindsay); grandchildren, Ryan, Jack, Derek, Savannah, Grace, Johnny, Caroline, Kensi and Landon; and sister, Ginny Jones (Wayne). John was preceded in death by his beloved parents and nephew, Brian C. Jones.

A memorial service was held 19 June 2021 with interment and military honors at Lakewood Park Cemetery in Rocky River, OH.

Go Navy! Beat Army! ★

OBITUARY GUIDELINES

If you have any questions regarding the submission of obituaries to Shipmate, please contact Timothy Elizabeth Woodbury (410-295-4064 or obits@usna.com).