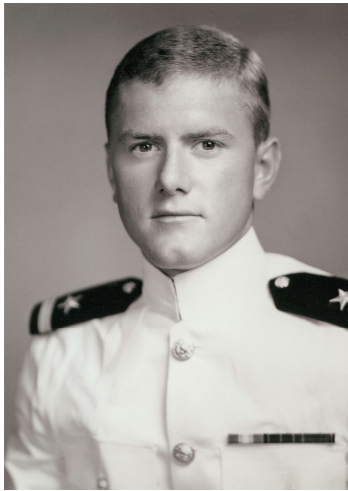


Gordon Rutherford “Rusty” McDonnell

18 February 1944 – 14 April 2021



Gordon “Rusty” McDonnell of Pasadena, CA passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on 14 April 2021 after a long and courageous battle against prostate cancer. He was 77 years old.

Rusty was born in Mineola, NY on 18 February 1944. He attended schools in New York City and New Rochelle, NY, graduating from high school in 1962. He was a member of the Naval Reserve and entered the Naval Academy with the Class of 1966. Rusty spent his 4 years at the Academy as a member of the 21st/31st Company. He was a large presence among his classmates and always provided enthusiasm, a positive outlook and a friendly smile.

After graduation Rusty spent the summer of '66 training plebes and serving on the Supe's staff.

Leaving Annapolis, he attended flight school before transferring to the surface fleet. His first ship was a minesweeper off the coast of Vietnam which was followed by an assignment as RADM Draper Kauffman's Flag Lieutenant at COMNAVPHIL in Subic Bay. After completing his Philippines tour, he was assigned to a guided missile cruiser based in Long Beach where he spent his remaining time in the navy before resigning in 1970.

While in the navy, Rusty had developed a strong interest in the stock market. Pursuing this, he began a long and very successful career as an institutional stockbroker with Jefferies Group, a global investment banking firm. He worked with clients throughout the country while also serving as manager of the Los Angeles office.

Rusty was an avid boater. He enjoyed both sail and power boating and was a long-time member of the Newport Harbor Yacht Club in Newport Beach, CA where he was a club photographer and editor of the club magazine. He owned a 48 foot power boat, aptly named “Chesapeake”, which he used to cruise for many years with family and friends off southern California.

Rusty was a loyal supporter of the Naval Academy. He was a member of the Alumni Association President's Circle and was a Life Member of the Naval Academy Alumni Association.

He is survived by his wife Kathleen, daughters Claudia, Mandy and Whitney, their spouses and 6 grandchildren.

Rusty will be greatly missed by all those who knew him. He was a great classmate, friend and gentleman. He will be interred at the Naval Academy Columbarium.

Gordon Rutherford “Rusty” McDonnell

18 February 1944 – 14 April 2021

Lucky Bag 1966

**GORDON RUTHERFORD McDONNELL New Rochelle, New York
Sixth Battalion | 31st Company**

Rusty came to the Academy from the shores of Long Island Sound at New Rochelle. He evidently liked what he saw about the Navy because he maintained a keen interest in that subject throughout his years here. As a result of this interest, he acquired a broad knowledge of all aspects of the Navy with emphasis on Naval Aviation. Either with or without the Navy, Russ plans to fly. On weekends when money and time permitted, he took private flying lessons toward getting his own pilot’s license. During winter leaves he usually was found engaged in an equally thrilling endeavor—his favorite—on the ski slopes of the various Eastern resorts. Under his supervision and planning evolved the best post-Army Game parties his classmates ever had. Definitely, the blending of his determination, enthusiasm and varied abilities will produce an outstanding officer of the Naval service.