

Kathy; aunt, and uncle **Walt Szczypinski ('59, and Caroline Szczypinski (18)**. Walt had the privilege of pinning on Mike's Vice Admiral shoulder boards, reminiscent of pinning on his Ensign boards shortly after graduation. ■



New Tenth Fleet Commander

Special Times

Many 59ers attended a memorial service for **Jocile Nordwall (6)** at Mount Vernon United Methodist Church in Alexandria, on 30 July 2016. Joceile was a dancer, trained in classical ballet. She taught and choreographed for 25 years, and turned her talents to liturgical dance to enhance the worship experience.

Bruce Nordwall (6) commented that "she would have been so pleased with this memorial service". Your Class Scribe will never forget the dancers who made this beautiful memorial service very special indeed. In attendance from the Class of 1959 were: **Niki Pickett & Art Emmerson (6), Dan & Ona Truax (6), Ray & Eileen Art (5), Charlie Dobbs (10), Jack & Jean Anne Lovell (15), Charlie Pease (10), Gary Smith (21), Joe & Lois Flynn (6), Raquel Saenz (6), widow of Ramiro, Plus Dave North, '57 in the 6th company, and Brendan Mac Greeley, USMA '60, a USMC aviator.**

Very Late Times

Your Secretary has been extremely remiss because for four months I have failed to include a report from **Frank Pipkin (11)** who three times sent me a report of the funeral for **Jack Shirreffs ((11), prepared by Frank, Tom Lukish (2) and Ray LaVan (11))**. I have no excuse sirs, other than a series of senior moments mixed with my vacation trip. Their report is belatedly included below:

On Saturday, March 12, 2016, a Mass was held at St. Juliana's Catholic Church in West Palm Beach, FL. for the Celebration of Life of **John. "Jack" Shirreffs, Jr.** Jack was born in Darby, PA, on October 6, 1936, and he passed away on February 21, 2016. Jack is survived by his wife, Waverly, her children, Jeffrey

Hepler, Dr. Matthew Hepler, M.D. and his wife Jennifer, Jack's children Allison, Christine, and John, their mother, Jean, Jack's grandsons, Bryant and Evan, their mother Lisa, and Jack's sister, Joanne and her husband Joe.

At the end of the Mass, a detail of U.S. Marines performed a Flag ceremony and presented the Flag to Waverly. After the Mass, a luncheon was held at the Beach Club in Palm Beach. Members of the Class of 1959 in attendance were: **Norm Bednarek and Linda (22), Liza Bray & (John, (22), Ron Denny and Beverly (19), Grace Fritzinger) 22), Rick Johnson and Ginny (17), Ray LaVan (11), Tom Lukish and Dolores (2), Frank Pipkin (11), Howard Poxon and Annette (20), Bob Reifsnnyder and Sandy (5).**

Also present were football teammate **Al Swanson '58, Tom Lynch '64, and former NAVY Football Coach Wayne Hardin.** During the luncheon, thoughtful and light hearted remembrances of Jack were presented by daughter Allison, **Al Swanson, Tom Lukish, Howie Poxon, and Frank Pipkin.**

Jack had been especially joyful and proud watching his grandsons play football (Bryant is a Quarterback at the University of Connecticut, and Evan, is a Quarterback at the University of Miami) Jack's spirit will, no doubt, be present at the NAVY vs. Univ. of Conn. football game at Annapolis on September 10, 2016, as he cheers for Bryant.

Again, your Class Secretary apologizes for the delay in publishing this report.

In Memoriam:

Ed Cather (22), Catherine Oakes (1) and William I. Milwee, Jr. (17)
Rise and Shine!!

60 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 1%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 69%

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Ed McCaskill (8) a regular attendee at Tidewater 60 functions passed away recently. A big surprise to many of us as he was going strong right up to the end and had even attended a class get together the week before.

He'll be missed at those frequent Norfolk/Williamsburg '60 functions.

— Bill

From **Doug Johnston (5):**

■ Gents, I have been away for a while but now am back and planning our next round of lunches and Christmas dinner. Keeping in mind the Navy's historic resistance to change, it is with no small degree of trepidation that I suggest we gravitate toward the third Thursday of each month for our lunches. It has a ring of alliteration to it, which makes it easier for old guys like me to remember. More to the point, the second Tuesdays generally aren't available for the upcoming year at the A/NCC. So, please block your respective calendars for the following dates: Nov 17, Dec 7 (Christmas dinner — a Wednesday evening; no Friday or Saturday availability, nor any day the week of Dec. 12), Jan 19, Feb 16, March 16, April 20, May 18. Thanks, and sorry for any inconvenience. Doug. ■

From **Jay Newbern (8):**

■ Dear Bill, Of all things the recent alligator incident in FL prompted me to write because it must have caught everyone else's attention too, and I can provide some advice. Our family dates to the Seminole Indian War here and learned to look after children, pets, and livestock with one eye out for gators.

When Dad returned from WWII he was transferred to the Corps of Engineers office on the edge of the Everglades, and just before we left Tampa, Granny warned me I could never outrun a gator. I was to face it, let it get me, then gouge out its eyes with my thumbs. After I returned here to care for Dad in '02, a game warden on the radio suggested the same tactic, so it must be the one, true way. When I was returning to my condo this spring, a goose was honking and honking in the lagoon and suddenly there was a gigantic thrashing of wings with sheets of water streaming down. The goose finally became airborne and it looked like white soap suds were on the water – feathers. Then I saw the head of our four foot gator. One day he'll be larger and more dangerous.

Perhaps some of you have enjoyed tossing chicken parts to gators – part of getting close to nature.. Just keep in mind that when gators are hungry they eat. They can outrun you.

Thanks very much for all the interesting news and work on behalf of the class. Drop by and spend some time if you're near Ponte Vedra Beach (Metro Jacksonville).

Always, Jay S/F ■

From **Rod Friedmann (5)**:

■ Bill, fifteen ancient mariners rendezvoused at a well established restaurant called the Crab Shack—on-the James (River) in Newport News for a little summer fun, relaxation and Navy talk (i.e. retelling of embellished sea stories). If you like good quality sea food, the Crab Shack is must visit. Our lunch bunch included: **Bob Osmon (17)**, **Pete Chabot (14)**, **Paul Cooper (5)**, **Bob Antonio (14)**, **Jack Greenhalgh (9)**, **Frank Kay (8)**, **Dick Hamon (8)**, **Angelo “Flip” DiFlippo (14)**, **Al Whitaker (16)**, **Ed Clextion (10)**, **Bill Kee (9)**, **Bob Powers (8)**, **Bert “Funny Man” Johnson (10)**, **Ed McCaskill (8)** & **Rod Friedmann (5)**.

Class notes: **Bob Osman (17)** revised the date (Mon., Dec 5th) of our Williamsburg Christmas Party at the Le Yaca restaurant. This will enable out-of-town couples a chance to attend the Williamsburg Illumination festivities and the Annual Christmas Concert scheduled for Sun., 4 Dec. **Bob Antonio (14)** pitched **Hank Chiles (21)** Class Funding Program and encouraged maximum support, while **Pete Chabot (14)** briefed the Class Reunion Committee’s efforts to gather inputs from the Class, via a survey, concerning our 60th Reunion in 2020. Class preferences will include when (time of year) and where (select locations) to hold the reunion plus other important queries. **Ed McCaskill (8)** was able to attend and enjoy the luncheon camaraderie since his surgery was postponed until the next day.

Upon completion of the luncheon, the group proceeded short distance to the Virginia War Museum (VWM). The VWM was a “sleeper.” While relatively small for a museum, it was very well done, with up-to-date displays and easy access. Senior rates (\$7) were available for our aging warriors. Displays ranged from the Revolutionary War through the Vietnam and Iraq wars. Well worth the time and a visit. Bill, here’s a few photo candidates for SHIPMATE. —Rod ■



Bob Antonio



'60: Tidewater Group at the Crabshack



Ed McCaskill, Pete Chabot and Bill Kee

From **Doug Johnston (5)**:

■ Dear Bill, a bit late in reporting the outcome of our lunch with West Point colleagues at the end of March., but here it is. It proved to be a grand occasion, with 39 of them (they meet quarterly, rather than monthly) and 15 of us in attendance. Guest speaker Ed Bonekemper’s lecture on the Civil War, with specific reference to the impact of the combined operations between the Army and Navy on the Union side was particularly interesting (he also spoke that same evening at the Smithsonian). Every bit as interesting were a number of counter-intuitive facts that he threw out, including a comparison of Union losses under Grant vs. Confederate losses under Lee (Lee’s were considerably greater).

The following Blue and Golders participated: **Grant Sharp (19)**, **Hank Chiles (21)**, **Gary Cogdell (7)**, **Dennis Hickey (22)**, **Bob Traister (2)**, Dolly and **Gene Tucker (9)**, **Tom Solak (2)** and Jean Rush, Karen and Jerry Ransford, **Bob Matulka (2)** and Darlene Lebedev, and yours truly and Dareen.

And they were very well behaved. Not once did anyone mention THE STREAK! ■

From **Bob Osmon (17)**:

■ Dear Bill, the rains caused our golf party to be shifted from Saturday to Friday and as a result, our turnout was not quite as large as we normally have. But those who came enjoyed the competition and the camaraderie. We all gave the Pro staying with me, Kelly Tan, a big cheer as she went by and we were rewarded with a big beautiful smile and wave. Also the next day Kelly vowed to get a birdie for me on the 11th, my hole, and she didn’t disappoint. Of course, I was wearing my Class of 60 hat and my Class of 60 raincoat, so I’m sure that helped. OZ ■

From **Ed Mangan (20)**:

■ “Bill, I thought I would send this while fresh in my mind. The Annapolis Group met today September 2 for lunch at the Eastport Yacht Club. To sum up, good company, good food, and a great location were enjoyed by all. Attending were our host **Merf Moerschel (2)**, **Jack Paepcke (11)**, Betty & **Ken Loveland (23)**, Joanne & **Bob Gamba (11)**, **John Michalski (6)**, Gloria & **Bob Antonio (14)**, Jane & **Jerry Nelson (8)**, **Ron Burdge (9)**, Ginny & **Don Delude (12)**, **Gary Cogdell (7)**, Beth & **Jim Knorr (20)**, Darleen & **Doug Johnston (5)**, and **Ed Mangan (20)** with special guests, his daughter Maureen Coelho and Sidsel Fox a very close friend of our departed classmate **Pete Latimer (18)**. It was a good start to the fall season. Beat Fordham and UConn! Ed” ■

From **Herb Mossman (12)**
via **John Michalski (6)**:

■ “John – I’ve been looking for some notification to you of **Bud Roemish’s (3)** recent death, finally called Jackie today to ask her permission to send this to you. Bud & I entered Binghamton North High together & were in virtually every class together. We both married our High School sweet hearts. We were roommates in 3rd Company both Plebe & Youngster years. Sue & I were married on New Year’s Eve. Bud & Jackie were our Best Man & Matron of Honor. Upon graduation Bud went Navy Air & I went Supply Corps. After initial training, we both bought homes on adjacent streets in Virginia Beach. We saw Bud & Jackie at our 25th High School Reunion, & Not again until last year at our Class of 1960 55th Reunion. Bud & Jackie were the first people we ran into at the first reception. My oldest son, Mark, says “there are no such things as coincidences.” Bud & John Claman (3) our other roommate, were my personal inspirations to dedicate my class ring to the class of 2010. Bud was the most highly decorated class member with 2 DFC’s & John with 2 Stars, while the high point of my career was getting through Plebe Year. I used to say, that Graduation from the Academy & marrying Sue were the 2 Best things that ever happened to me. NOW I HAVE THREE, having Bud a part of my life, I Love You, I Will Miss You. Herb ■

From **Harry Lewis (15)**:

■ “Mimi and I were in Boston last week where our No.2 son, Matt, was in ICU at Brigham Women’s Hospital. We were able to spend an evening with **James McCusker (14)** and Barbara Watson. We had an outstanding dinner at Vinny Martino’s Brick House Cafe in Dedham, and recommend it to all in the area. They are both doing well, and we got caught up on old news and new news. Looking forward to the ND Game in Jacksonville, and hope we can meet up with all classmates in the area. Our Matt has been released from the hospital and is in rehab for the seizures apparently caused by scar tissue from his previous stroke nine years ago. Prayers were answered. Harry ■

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**Honor
Chairs**

61 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 2%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 70%

PRES: **RADM Jerome F. Smith Jr., USN (Ret.)**
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As I write this in PA, the summer is beginning to leave us slowly (it’s early September). By the time you get this, Connie & I will be back down in FL (we leave PA right after the last home football game), so if you intend to send me anything after our last game, note the change of email addresses in the header of this article. I think that either one will work OK. The COMCAST address no longer will work at that time... We have just returned from the 55th Class reunion; it was GREAT! VERY good attendance from the Class, and the schedule worked to perfection. Check out the montage **David Wright (3)**, the Class’s coordinator for the whole thing and **Dick Garritson (22)** did (should be somewhere near this column): a tremendous, bang-up job. We also had an excellent, detailed briefing for us from the Superintendent. Not a hitch, except apparently it was too hot for the Mids to do a P-rade... Even the nail-biting football game with Connecticut worked out well (we didn’t know the outcome until the final second) –VERY exciting game! Keep your cards, letters, and photos coming – I have enough for this issue, and maybe even one or two left for the next.

This received from **Barb Kuester (7)**, just after the reunion:

■ Here’s a picture taken of the Anchors who attended the luncheon at the Naval Academy Club following the Memorial Service. ■



‘61: Front Row L to R: Barb Kuester (7), Marjorie Gastrock (8), Chris Umberger (15), Yvonne Furman (17), JoAnne Korsmo (10), Jean George Sheridan (24), Beverly Traa (3); Second Row L to R: CeAnne Ochel (20), Ruth Partlow (20), Linda LeCornu (5), Gloria Stem (11), Mary Ferrier (22), Donna Bartholomew (5), Margaret Schmidt (7), Bonnie Campbell-Kuhn (3), Joan Evans (21), Doris McLaughlin (11). Not pictured are Gloria McMillan (14), Becky Hicks (7), Ceil Wasserman (2) and Lauree McKeown (16).



This is a very nice, candid shot of our HQ at LEOW’s by **Charlie Gardner (9)**. Hard to tell, but I think it is SNACKTIME, not lunchtime. They’re probably in a break during the grueling reunion, and required some immediate sustenance.



Sent in by **Allen Walker (1)**:

■ “The attached picture shows yours truly with MIDN 1/C Shelby Hairr (she’s the one wearing the Highland Dancer outfit). She’s a dancer with the Pipes & Drums. The Pipes & Drums performed for us on Reunion Saturday at the football game. Each member later provided some personal information, including their home state, and Shelby said hers was NC. I later introduced myself as a Lillington native, and was floored when she replied that she was, too! Relying only on my personal knowledge, she may be only the third person from Lillington (2013 population 3408) to attend USNA. The first was a 1950 grad. Shelby will graduate in 2017 and hopes to ‘Fly NAVY.’ Small world, indeed. ■