

JOHN DEAN ANGEL



“Dean” Angel, 79, passed away in Everett, WA, on 28 January 2014 of COPD.

Born in Harriman, TN, on 29 July 1934, his dad was an itinerant preacher and the family relocated to Vancouver, WA, in 1948.

Following high school, Dean attended Clark Junior College and in 1953, enlisted in the Army. After basic training, he received a congressional appointment to the Naval Academy, reporting with the Class of 1958.

Torpedoed by the rigorous math, Dean dropped out, but was reappointed to the Class of 1960. During his years there, he developed a love for the Academy traditions and his shipmates that he enthusiastically displayed for the remainder of his life.

Dean left the Academy before graduation and pursued his dream of becoming a naval aviator by applying to one of the Navy’s cadet flight programs. He was commissioned and received his Wings of Gold in 1959, serving on active duty from 1959 until 1968.

Dean had tours with VW-14 at Barbers Point, HI; command of WV-2 aircraft while forward deployed to Midway Island; downrange pilot assigned to Point Mugu, CA; the Naval Postgraduate School (BS, political science); and his final tour at NAS Whidbey Island, WA.

Beginning with Chapel choir at the Academy, Dean maintained a lifelong passion for music and theater. He was a member of the Driftwood Players (Edmonds, WA) and a cast member in 18 productions over a nine-year span, receiving a best supporting actor award for his portrayal of Pa Joad in *The Grapes of Wrath*. He also performed with the Bellevue (WA) Opera, Monroe (WA) Evergreen Players and the Everett (WA) Savoyard Players.

He also volunteered helping elementary students with reading difficulties and as a Radio Reader for the Blind on local radio.

Predeceased by his wife, Evernor, Dean is survived by sons, Jeffrey and Jonathan; daughter, Karyn Dorion (Tim); grandchildren, Brandon, Parker and Brooke; brother, Donald; and sister, Vikki Yeager.

Dean was a life member of the USNA Alumni Association. After leaving the Navy and returning to the Pacific Northwest, he became increasingly active in the Puget

Sound Chapter, serving two terms on the board of trustees and one term as chapter vice president.

A stalwart in supporting local alumni events, Dean especially relished opportunities to meet with other alumni and watch Navy football. On 14 December 2013, Dean joined his shipmates at the Army game tailgate to watch Navy “BEAT ARMY” one more time.

Ron Waddell '67 – July-August 2014 Shipmate