

## **Champe Offutt Bachelder**

Upon graduation, Champe served as Supply Officer aboard USS MYLES C. FOX (DD 829). In 1961, he married his high school sweetheart, Karen Beall. He then was assigned as Assistant Supply Officer at the Naval Station, Charleston, SC. He and Karen then moved to his hometown of Kingsport, TN, in the fall of 1964, and settled in his old family home. Champe worked at TN Eastman as a chemical engineer, and was active in civic service as a Jaycee and in the Kiwanis. He held various offices in both organizations and served two terms as Kiwanis president. He was also active in the PTA, the Boy Scouts, and the Kingsport Presbyterian Church. He developed Parkinson's disease at age 53 and had to take an early retirement. This illness troubled him both physically and mentally, and he fought it valiantly as long as he could. He and Karen moved to Nashville in February 2002, to be near their daughter and medical facilities. His condition worsened gradually, and he passed away on February 19, 2006.

Champe and Karen had two children, Champe Jr. (Chip) and Alice. Both graduated from the University of TN. Chip is serving on staff with Student Ventures (Campus Crusade for high school students) in Houston, TX. He is married and has two children. Alice is a nurse at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, in Nashville, TN. She is married and has two children.