

EDWIN HAMMER BAILEY

Commander Edwin H. "Ed" Bailey, USN (Ret), died of cancer on 21 May 2002 in Ocala, FL. Ed ("Beetle" to many of his Classmates) was born and raised in Washington, IA. After graduation from high school he attended the University of Iowa for two years and then the Naval Academy, graduating with the Class of 1960.

Ed's first duty station was the destroyer BRINKLEY BASS. For the next 20 years he served in the Supply Corps at various duty stations including Glenview, IL, Turkey, Washington, DC, San Diego, CA, Naval Supply Center Cleveland, OH, and Mechanicsburg, PA, where he retired in 1980. Ed received a master's degree in business administration from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA.

Following his retirement, Ed worked for Ruppman Marketing in Peoria, IL, where he retired in 1996 as vice president. He moved to Ocala, FL, with his wife, Janie, in 1997 and bought a house on the fifth hole of the Golden Hills Golf & Turf Club, where he could pursue his love of golf, which he did, with the same exuberance he exhibited as player/manager of the Academy's golf team First Class Year.

During the period shortly before his death, many of Ed's 22nd Company Classmates contacted him. All recalled the joy and excitement Ed brought to them during the Academy years, like the evening he and Company mate Hap Peterson worked a tough come-around to Tom O'Neill '58 into an end-of-day "spooning." Fred Hale, Ed's Second Class roommate, recalled with hilarity the Sixth Battalion's last march-off First Class Year: Ed relieved the drummer, and some jokingly say the Company, if not the Battalion, has been out of step ever since!

Later, Paul Ploeger (his Plebe Year roommate) and Tom Moylan (his Youngster Year roommate) summed-up Ed's Classmates' feelings, "Ed had the ability to make things brighter" that first year, and "his two strongest points were his humor (never at the expense of others) and his innate kindness."

Ed is survived by his wife, Janie, whom he married in 1962; sons, Geoffrey, Tim, and Brad; and six grandchildren. He is also survived by his sisters, Marsha Homes and Eleanor Shirley; and brother, Ted Bailey.

Services were private and Ed's ashes were scattered over the second hole at the Washington Country Club in Washington, IA.

*22nd Company Classmates
Shipmate, October 2002*