

BERNARD EARL EBERLEIN



Commander "Bernie" Eberlein, USN(Ret.), died at his home in Fallbrook, CA, on 29 July 2008. He was 73 years old.

A native of Minnesota, he grew up in Oregon and Oklahoma. He graduated from high school in Oklahoma, joined the Marine Corps and served almost three years, including Korea, advancing to the rank of corporal. He attended the Naval Academy Preparatory School prior to the Naval Academy. He graduated from USNA, as he said, "with the help of a lot of rosaries from his mother" in June 1960, a member of the 18th Company.

After graduation he went to flight training. After his first solo flight he decided aviation was not for him and he went to sea. He was CIC officer in a destroyer escort, executive officer of a MSC and operations officer in a new DDG, COCHRANE (DDG-21), then on to ST. PAUL (CA-73). He then went to what he described as the "best job in the Navy," company officer at the Naval Academy. During that tour, he was awarded a master's degree in management science from The George Washington University. Then he was on to the Command and Staff Course at the Naval War College. Bernie next was executive officer of SOUTHERLAND (DD-743), chief staff officer, DesRon 15, and had another executive officer tour in WHITE PLAINS (AFS-4). Bernie's final duty station was as executive officer, Naval Station, Long Beach. He retired in 1985. During his career he was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat V and three Navy Commendation Medals.

After 32 years of military service, Bernie moved to Fallbrook, CA, to live on the golf course of the Pala Mesa Resort. Bernie started playing golf at the Navy golf course at Long Beach while he was the XO at the naval station. Bernie, as a volunteer, was heavily involved in keeping the resort course and dining room/bar area in shape and he was very active in the Men's Club at the course, including four terms as president and six terms as tournament director.

Bernie is survived by his companion of 24 years, Terry Martin; sons, Christopher and Patrick; daughter-in-law, Jennifer; five grandchildren; and his Bichon Frise, Casey. A wake hosted by Terry was held on 16 August at Bernie and Terry's home. No other services were held as he requested. He was cremated and his ashes will be scattered at sea.

*Jack Shaw '60
Shipmate October 2008*