

ROBERT JULIUS KOWALL

Commander Robert J. Kowall, USNR (Ret.), died at home in Parrish, FL, on 28 May 2004 after a courageous three-year battle with cancer. He was 66 years old.

Bob was born on 19 August 1937 in Greenwich, CT, and grew up in Port Chester, NY. He attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Rensselaer, NY for one year before attending the Naval Academy.

After graduating with the Class of 1960, he spent four years in destroyers and as OIC of the DASH Program, helping to develop the drone antisubmarine helicopter attack system. After leaving active duty, Bob attended the University of Florida, where he graduated with a degree in architectural engineering and a lifelong love of the game of golf. He continued to serve his country as a naval flight officer in the Reserve reaching the rank of commander. In 1967 shortly after joining the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Bob married Maureen, his wife of 37 years. With Bethlehem, he managed the sale of construction products for over 20 years in the major markets of Pittsburgh, Boston, New York and Atlanta, and in the late 1980s started Connecticut Traders, his own metals sales and marketing firm.

He was past president of the Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute and on the board of directors of the Concrete Industry Board, both in New York. He was a past member of the Shorehaven Golf Club, Norwalk, CT, and River Wilderness Golf and Country Club, Parrish, FL. Bob and Maureen moved to Parrish, FL, in 1998, where he continued consulting in the metals and construction fields.

Bob is survived by his wife, Maureen; son, Robert J. Kowall Jr. of New York City; daughter, Kathleen of Miami Beach, FL; and sister, Leona Citrano of Trumbull, CT. He was predeceased by his son, Michael, in 1986.

A memorial service was held at St. Francis Cabririi Catholic Church on 1 June 2004. He was cremated and his ashes were interred at the family plot in Connecticut.

*Maureen Kowall & Ed Mangan '60
Shipmate, September 2004*