

## **JOHN SANFORD WOODARD**

Cdr. John S. Woodard, USN (Ret.) died on 12 August 1986 at Mercy Hospital in San Diego, California, after more than a 20-year, courageous fight against cancer. He donated his remains to medical research; a memorial service was held on 15 August at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in San Diego. Born in Washington, DC, he received a Presidential appointment to the Naval Academy following graduation from high school in San Diego. Upon graduation he was assigned to USS HARWOOD (DDE-861). Following Destroyer School department head training he was Aide and Flag Lieutenant to Commander Cruisers Destroyers Atlantic. In 1964 he attended Nuclear Propulsion Training. Following this qualification, he was assigned as Engineer Officer, USS VESOLE (DD-878). In April 1967, he reported as Main Propulsion Assistant in USS BAINBRIDGE (DLGN-25). In 1969 he attended the US Naval Postgraduate School, being awarded a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 1971. Following a tour as Main Propulsion Assistant in USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65), he attended Armed Forces Staff College. Returning to California in 1972 following Staff College he served as Executive Officer of USS MOBILE (LKA- 115). For the remainder of his career until he retired in July 1980 he was first, the Engineering Readiness and Training Officer on the staff of Commander Naval Surface Forces Pacific and then, Director of Personnel Qualification System (PQS) Development Group at Naval Education and Training Center Pacific. Following retirement, John worked for Essex Corporation at their San Diego Branch until his death. Commander Woodard is the son of the late Capt. William Thornton Woodard of the Class of 1930. He is survived by his wife, Raquel (Vicki) and a daughter, Melissa Anna, of San Diego, California, his mother, Anna Marian Nixon; a brother, William Thornton Woodard, Jr.; his stepfather Capt. Richard Mueller Nixon, Class of 1930, USNA; and two stepsisters, Ann Gazourlan and Dr. Maureen Minor.

*SHIPMATE, March 1987*