

Daniel Fred Reid



Daniel F. Reid Sr. died on 23 January 2020 in Largo, FL. He was 82 years old.

A native of Chester, PA, subsequent to graduation from Chester High School in 1955, Dan attended Wyoming Seminary, a preparatory school in Kingston, PA. As a member of the Naval Reserve, he received a competitive appointment to the Naval Academy and entered USNA with the Class of 1960 as a member of the 19th Company. Graduating in June 1960, Dan was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.

He was assigned to MIT as one of the Air Force students preparing to serve in the national Space Program. After two years, he was awarded a Master of Science degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics and joined the Office of Aerospace Research, where he led several projects supporting our country's early space activities.

As a captain, Dan left the Air Force and joined GE's Space Division in Valley Forge, PA, as an engineer on the Manned Orbiting Laboratory and other military and commercial programs. As a control systems analyst, he performed one of the first hybrid analog and digital simulations and later managed systems engineering groups. His major accomplishments were as the program director of the DSCS/IABS Communication Satellite Program for ten years, including ten successful launches.

He received many awards during his career including GE's Centennial Award for outstanding achievement in 1978, Lockheed Martin's NOVA Selectee and was awarded a U.S. Patent for a satellite tracking system. Upon his retirement, the USAF presented him with the flag that flew over the launch pad of his final satellite launch.

Dan is survived by his wife of 60 years, the former Margaret Ann Evans of Springfield, PA; two sons, Dennis and David; and ten grandchildren. He was predeceased by his oldest son, Daniel F. Reid Jr. in 2014.

April-May 2020 Shipmate