



'59: Jim on the left and Larry on the right are both members of the sixth company, and participated in a Member/Guest golf tourney at Jim's home course, the Pretty Lake Golf Club in Plymouth, IN. They took second place in their flight with the last match routing their opponents 9-1. Jim shot a 42 and Larry a 40 in the 9 hole final match. Not bad for an average age of 85! Jim and Larry take turns visiting each other for a week of golf in either Plymouth or Lake Mary, FL We gave Navy a good name...Rise and Shine.

Commander. Donald then worked for BASF as a property manager in New Jersey, retiring in 2003 and moving to Palm Coast, Florida.

Sadly, **Frank Navratil**, 13th company, passed away on Saturday, 13 June 2020. He had been in a nursing home in pretty bad shape and contracted the Covid 19 Virus. His daughter Shannon moved him to her home and was with him at the end. He had expressed a desire to let go rather than continue the fight. Frank had an interesting career, starting with 20 years in the Air Force with many assignments in operational ICBM squadrons. This was followed by six years working with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory as project manager for a deep space exploratory program. He spent his next 16 years as an employee of the Aerospace Corporation supporting various DOD projects.

After 12 years with Parkinson's, **Bill Clautice**, 3rd company, was on his dock in Cocoa Beach, FL when he lost his balance and fell into the canal. This was a near drowning event, and he passed away due to complications on Sunday, 14 June. A memorial service was held on 18 June in Cocoa Beach. Bill retired in 1989 after 30 years of service. He spent most of his Navy career in submarines, culminating as Executive Officer of the USS GEORGE C. MARSHALL (SSBN 654) and then Commanding Officer of the Naval

Research Laboratory. Bill is survived by his wife, Joyce, after a marriage of over 61 years. Inurnment will be at the U.S. Naval Academy at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Brevard Parkinsons Alliance via check to 126 Celemente Drive, Satellite Beach, FL 32937.

'60

Life Membership: 69%
Donor Participation: 10.34%

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Classmates, As you have been following in the past few months the COVID 19 situation is affecting all kinds of nationwide events. Our 2020 Class reunion originally scheduled for September has been rescheduled for the spring of 2021, probably in April. Details will be coming out possibly as soon as you receive this. Stay safe. -Bill

Group gatherings are down with the current health crisis so a major source of input for the Class column is no longer available. I would still like to hear from folks as to how they are doing and what they are doing.

From **Joe Tranchini (14):**

✉ Back in the spring, the Air Force Thunderbirds did a flyover of San Diego hospitals in a salute to all San Diego healthcare workers during this COVID-19 outbreak. Apparently, the Blues couldn't fit San Diego (you know, that old Navy town out on the West Coast) into their flyover schedule, so our classmate **Ben Hallowell (3)**, leader of the stalwart Navy Old Goats, decided that the Thunderbirds couldn't just show up and steal the show with no Navy representation. He came up with the brilliant idea of arranging (including a plan for funding) an Old Goats flyover of San Diego hospitals, complete with a banner message. Ben's provided an after-action report, complete with pictures and a video of the tailhook "banner snatch" prior to the flyover. Well done to Ben and the Old Goats who made it happen. Joe T

P.S. Ben tells me that the Old Goats welcome new members at any time. If interested, I have contact info for Ben and will put you in touch.

Ben also added: "Greetings Goats, The Old Goats' salute to the health care workers was a great success."

From **Rod Friedman (5):**

✉ "**Tom Anderson (16)** (President, USNAAA, SC Low Country Chapter) provided the attached USNA Commandant's Virtual Town Hall. I think that you'll find it interesting, despite a few glitches. Good use of the technology to keep the info flow current. Rod

From **Tom Anderson (16):**

✉ "Shipmates, late last week, I had the opportunity, along with many other Chapter Presidents, to participate in a "virtual" Town Hall meeting with the Commandant of Midshipmen, Captain Thomas R. Buchanan '92. Captain Buchanan spent almost an hour giving us an update on what's currently going on at the Academy with respect to planning for Plebe Summer, Summer Training for the upper classes, the upcoming academic year, the sports programs and a number of other topics. Thanks to Tom Cavanaugh, our past President, all of us can now access and view

the Commandant's update through the link provided below, and I recommend taking the time to do so. As you will see, the Commandant and all of those responsible for educating and training our future Navy and Marine officers have a huge challenge in front of them to get ready for this summer and next fall. GO NAVY! **Tom Anderson (16)**, President, USNAAA, SC Low Country Chapter

From **Tug Knorr (20):**

✉ "I will try to keep this interesting, but not sure many '60 Classmates can say they have spent five years on one Ship. From 1971-1973 I was MPA on USS INDEPENDENCE (CVA 62) and then again 1976-1977 (IINDY) again as Chief Engineer! Having served under seven Skippers. During time on Board I had to deal with lots of Aviators who had the nerve to complain about "Smoke in the Groove" and even "Soot on their White Scarves". '60 Names to Follow!

Taking us back to 1971 as a LCdr MPA on a Med Cruise meant experiencing "Watching Russians watching us", Kashin Class ASW Destroyers, Hormone Helicopters, Badger Reconnaissance aircraft, MAY aircraft with Egyptian markings and Leningrad Cruisers were watching all of our activities. We anchored off various Italian ports as well as Istanbul, Turkey where a Russian Cruiser was pier side. Our Anchor was hung up on a cable as we tried to depart with 19 knots of current in the Dardanelles. My boss, Cdr. Myron Ricketts donned a scuba rig and supervised the "cutting of the cable". Rumor has it that power was lost to half of Istanbul.... nothing official?

January 17, 1972 back in VA Capes a C2A Grumman Twin Prop Carrier Onboard Delivery (COD) plane crashed upside down alongside INDY. Time went on until baggage appeared from the underside of the plane and eventually 8 military personnel emerged safely. LCdr **Raymond P Ilg** USN was one of those surviving this unfortunate accident. Pilot and Copilot were both killed. Yes, our '60 classmate survived. Departing the Med,

we did not do what Saratoga (CV-60) did to us when we entered the Med, "using a helo, drop a live Greased PIG on our Flight Deck". What an aviator welcome!

Back in the VA Capes both non- Nuclear Carriers JFK and Indy just happened to be heading toward Norfolk at 1208 July 1971. A Drag Race ensued — 12 to 23 knots!

Airborne planes noted what was going down below and gave a Knot by Knot report of Indy WIN to Airlant Himself in his Office. Indy E.O, Cdr Myron Ricketts let everyone know results to JFK E.O. Cdr Carl Alberto in a classic message. Everyone on a Carrier needed to tell of any significant happening. Aviators made it known when they achieved a "300th Landing" for example. On one quiet Sunday afternoon, the I MC announcement from a ship's Doctor... "Dr Jones just completed his 100 Circumcision making him a CIRCUMCENTURIAN". It was very interesting to serve as MPA, but received copies of three letters in 1973 from another LCDR from NROTC Unit at Auburn University relating to me that he was telling BUPERS that he was refusing to report as my relief as MPA. Eventually I got a relief after more than 2.8 years on Indy. My thanks to E.D. Captains Nunnally and Jones at Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Later, I was ordered to report to Washington after two plus years duty there, and got a ride on a COD. BUPERS had informed me that I was to return to INDY as Chief Engineer. (SUCH A DEAL) To be continued...Tug

We lost Classmate and former Philippine's Coast Guard chief **Carlos "Chuck" Agustin (17)** on Easter Sunday, April 12, due to cardiac arrest. He was 82. The retired commodore served as commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard from 1990 to 1993.

Following retirement from the Navy, he served in key staff positions at Camp Aguinaldo, notably as chief of plans. Agustin spearheaded the transfer of the Coast Guard to the Department of Transportation and Communications in the 1990s.

Though living half a world away, Chuck was an active classmate and strong supporter of 17th Company and the Class of 60. He certainly will be missed.

A native of Manila, Commodore Carlos Leong Agustin AFP (Ret) graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD, USA in 1960. He took Weapons Systems Engineering at the US Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA; Naval Staff Course at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, London, UK; NR course in National Security Management at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, U.S. NDU; and Advanced Intelligence Course at the Special Intelligence Training School at AFP. He earned his MBA at the Ateneo de Manila University, graduating in 1978. Commodore Agustin served with the Philippine Navy in various staff and command positions, including command of five naval ships and three Task Groups. He later served as Defense Attaché Washington, DC (1985-88), Chief of Personnel (J1) of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (1988-90), and Commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard (1990-93). Upon retirement from service in 1993, he was appointed General Manager, Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) (1993-98) was a member of the Board of Governors at the World Maritime University (Malmo, Sweden) in concurrent capacity (1992-98). He was the first Administrator of the Cagayan Economic Zone Authority (CEZA) (1995-97). During the time, Agustin was cited by President Fidel V Ramos as the one responsible for originating the successful separation of the Philippine Coast Guard from the Philippine Navy that was formalized in 1996, via the enactment of the revised Coast Guard Law in 2009. Commodore Agustin was later appointed President of the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP) (2001- 2010). He was also one of 5 Philippine Experts and Eminent Persons in the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF EEP) (2002-2012), and continued his Track 2 engagement in Confidence Building with Chinese think tanks through

the Philippine Council for Foreign Relations (PCFR). He served as Director of Subic Bay Development and Industrial Estates Corporation (SUDECO) and sister companies (2010-2020). Commodore Agustin was President of the Maritime League; Chairman of the monthly Maritime Forum; and publisher of the bi-monthly magazine, The Maritime Review. Concurrently, he was also the Secretary General of Advocates of National Interests (ANI) and Class President of PMA Class 1959.

From **Bob Osmon (17)**:

✉ Hi Everyone, I recently talked to **Joel Febel (5)**. He tells me he is walking regularly now without a walker and is ready to return to Patriot's Colony as soon as possible. But Patriot's Colony has told him they will not allow any new people to move in until about mid-July. So, he will stay where he is and that isn't bad. He says the food is good and he now knows everyone, so even though he is bored to death, he will hang on. Bob

'61

Life Membership: 71%

Donor Participation: 9.51%

Pres: **RADM Jerome F. Smith Jr., USN (Ret.)**

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Well, here we all are again; as I write this, we are still in the pandemic, and don't know when it will end. I hope all have made it through OK so far, and will persevere to the conclusion, whenever that is. Thanks for all your inputs; I'm now beginning to run out, so please keep them coming.

This first one is from Grace Myers; a great article on her distinguished husband, the senior, longest-serving, most decorated Marine in our Class. We will be running a few of these off and on, as time goes on, and one per

SHIPMATE issue. The intent, at least at the start, is to cover those who distinguished themselves in combat or in the Service in some unique way. If any of the Class have suggestions for more, please let me know, and we'll work it out. Our first trial one was a couple of issues ago, on John Quarterman, you may recall. You'll note that BOTH of these are from the 13th Company. The Company came up first with the idea (and not because I'm also from that same Company...), but others from other Companies are certainly welcome!

Another excellent example of the Class of 1961 significant contributions to this great nation's freedom.



Don Myers

Colonel **Donald Myers, USMC, Distinguished Member Class of 1961**
Article and photo sent in by **Stan Roman '61**

✉ Don Myers, "Sarge", was born in Baltimore, MD. Left high school early to join the Marine Corps. His enlisted assignments included Korea, NAPS, and an appointment to the Naval Academy as a former sergeant.

I met Don in August 1957, our Plebe year at Navy. We were selected to share a room for four with two other classmates in what I would describe as a broom closet with a window looking out on a ventilation shaft. I walked into the room, and there was smiling Fran Furtaw, a Fleet Marine, George Glavis an 18-year-old and Don sitting at his desk with a spit shine cloth and a pair of 12 EEE shoes that looked like mirrors. There was also a can of Brasso on the desk, and so I was quickly introduced to spit