

Thomas James Terry



Captain Thomas J. Terry Jr., USN (Ret.), passed away on 28 November 2020 at the age of 81.

“Tom” was born in Washington, DC, and moved several times before landing in Marietta, GA, where he attended high school. Tom received a congressional appointment to the Naval Academy and, after graduation in 1960, married his wife, Joan.

Tom served 11 years on active duty, beginning with destroyers, and ending with nuclear submarines. After active duty, Tom served in the Naval Reserves and attained the rank of captain. During this period, Tom also attended Johns Hopkins University and received two

master’s degrees: one in management science and another in computer science.

Tom worked for several aerospace companies, where he was involved with the design concepts of advanced torpedoes and various weapon systems. Prior to his retirement in 2005, Tom was the CIO at the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Besides his family, Tom was most proud of leading the team to build the first Catholic website in the world, the Catholic Information Center Internet (CICI). This was such a feat that, when Pope John Paul II visited New York in October of 1995, Tom had the honor of meeting with him to introduce CICI.

Throughout the years, Tom enjoyed doing home improvement projects and excelled in his woodworking skills, creating many family heirlooms, including his first grandchild’s cradle and a sleigh for Santa.

Retirement brought Tom and Joan to their home on the water in Ocean Pines, MD, where they spent many years on “vacation” with family and friends. Their recent move to Charlotte, NC, to be near their youngest grandchildren has been joyous.

Tom is survived by Joan, his wife of 60 years; daughters, Kathleen (Joe) and Maureen; sons, Tom, Steve (Pat) and Ken (Jenn); and four grandchildren, Matt, Katie, Patrick and Lauren.

His brilliance never overshadowed his extreme kindness, faith and love for his family. We will be forever grateful to God for the memories that fill our hearts.

March-April 2021 Shipmate