

sail about 80% of the time. It was not like taking the "Freedom" out; Freedom required a 14 man crew to handle the sails but everything on this ship was automated; push a button and a sail was raised. I spent a few minutes in the Pilot House and I did not recognize one electronic instrument, lots of changes since we went to sea. The ship had two small swimming pools and a baby grand piano. Freedom had two things that Star Clipper did not have; an operating fireplace and a bathtub.

Our next stop was Ephesus. The ancient ruins of a city of 1/4 million people is about 25% uncovered. It was the third large city in the Roman Empire at the time. It must have been magnificent in its prime as the ruins were spectacular.

From Ephesus we sailed to Patmos where John had been exiled. The cave and monastery were interesting but not so spectacular.

From Patmos we sailed north to Pergamum, a Roman Health Spa, that was condemned in the book of Revelation for idolatry, sexual immorality and listening to a false teacher. The ruins were not extensive but enough to allow us to see the general outline of the city.

We then sailed north west to Philippi and had a short communion service at the stream where Paul converted Lydia. We also viewed the jail where Paul was imprisoned, that location is in some dispute. The city is built by a small hill so there is an excellent view of the city layout and the Agora where Paul preached and was tried.

The next day was spent at sea transversing the Dardanelles to Istanbul. We spent our last day seeing the Blue Mosque and the Grand Bazaar.



Four masted schooner Star Clipper

Gordon Abercrombie (23) from Eastern Med, where he has spent most his life.
- More in next issue"

'60

Life Membership: 71%

Donor Participation: 17.70%

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President's Corner

The least pleasant task of the Class President these days is conveying the news of yet another classmate's departure to his eternal reward. Whenever I hear the news of a new loss, I look up that person's description in the *Lucky Bag* and then see what he had to say about his life's journey in *The Link*.

Depending upon whether or not I knew the gent in question, I have two reactions. If I knew him, gratitude for the fact that his presence enriched my life. If I didn't, regret at not having had the opportunity to know him. But, either way, like many of you, I feel an inevitable sense of diminishment, simply because the ranks of the Brotherhood have taken another hit.

A number of other classes publish the obituaries of the departed in their columns in *Shipmate*. We, on the other hand, publish them on our website. I like our approach; but if any of you happen to have shared a humorous or inspiring experience with a classmate who has passed, please consider sharing it with the rest of us by capturing it in writing and sending it to **Bill Lewis (5)** for inclusion in a future issue of *Shipmate* or to **Richard Harper (7)** if its length is a better fit with the "Sea Stories" section of our website.

I think most of us feel fortunate if we have known even half of our classmates, but I have yet to read about any one of them who hasn't lived an impressive life. Hopefully, the above suggestion will give us greater opportunity to know who they were and to honor their accomplishments. Carpe Diem, Doug

From **Tom Curtis (22):**

✉ "Excerpt from original email to Oz: *We always say that our marriage lasted so long because I was gone all of the time. But I'm sure there was more to it than that. Maybe Australian women are just more tolerant of swabbies.*

Photo at Naval Station Long Beach chapel shows newlyweds Ensign Tom Curtis, USS PROVIDENCE (CLG6) and Mrs. Margaret (Palmer) Curtis, formerly of Wollongong, NSW, Australia. Arch of Swords includes classmates Gary Chew (22), Murray Nixon (19), and Bob Byrne (22), plus three shipmates from USS PROVIDENCE. Not shown: Best Man Angelo Karampelas.

Trust that all is going well with you, Bill. We're maintaining. Thanks for all the years efforts of keeping the class informed of current events. —Tom and Margaret



Tom & Margaret Curtis

Historical side note for Oz:

✉ Bill and I were shipmates in Nathanael Greene (SSBN 636B) in mid-60's and later at Guided Missiles School, Dam Neck in late-60's.

A little more on the story, my CO on the PROVIDENCE was Capt. Russ Kefauver a Navy Cross submariner who operated out of Australia. He was really supportive for us when we prepared for the wedding in the states. Margaret's mother came over for the wedding. My parents couldn't make it for the wedding, so the Kefauver's stood in for them at the ceremony. They were also very welcoming to Margaret's mother.

When Margaret and I and her mother drove cross country to sub school it was in the Kefauver's new VW that he had picked up in Hong Kong and brought back on board the PROVIDENCE. He had just made Rear Admiral and was enroute to DC. We dropped off the car in DC, proceeded by train to New London, and then arranged Mrs. Palmer's transportation (commercial freighter out of Savannah) back to Australia.

From **Jim Baker (12):**

✉ "I attended **Walter (Walt) R. Land's (6)** funeral service August 21, 2023 at First United Methodist Church in Glen Ellyn, IL. It was very moving and well-attended. His grandchildren served as pallbearers, and his son Mike and daughter Susan spoke elegantly on Walt's life. Six fellow retired Naval Reserve officers who served with Walt also attended the service. The celebration of life luncheon which followed was lovely and very crowded with friends and family. Photographs of Walt's USNA days, his Navy career, family life and friends were shared on a large screen. Burial was private at Forest Hill cemetery in Glen Ellyn.

As a side note - I knew of Walt at USNA, but did not get to know him until 1971 after I returned from Vietnam. I met him at my first Naval Reserve meeting at the Chicago Reserve Center. We began a friendship that lasted for 52 years. I was quite shocked when I learned of his passing. My intention that week was call

and invite him to watch the Navy/Notre Dame game with me. Instead, I attended his funeral.
—Jim Baker

From **Dennis Vied (24):**

☒ "I am back from the Dublin Debacle, with a slight cold and a few extra pounds, and thought I would offer a report. Navy got a field goal in the last quarter to save us from a total rout. They played gamely but mostly scorelessly for most of the game.

I may have been the oldest alum there. I don't have conclusive proof, but at the Guinness Storehouse Official Navy meet and greet party, (which was an impressive event), there was an electronic sign "Welcoming the classes of...", which started off with 1960! Not conclusive proof, but close enough for me.

The tour company was called On Location, a name which I had not heard of till now. I had started out with Anthony Travel, and somehow it morphed into OL. They did a nice job scheduling a complete tour around the game. We started out with two days in Galway, three days in Dublin, and three days in Killarney. Various mixed groups of ND and Navy alums did variations on those themes. We had the same bus driver and tour guide throughout the tour, which was nice. They were able to fold in some events not officially scheduled, but very interesting to see. They scheduled us to fly non-stop from San Francisco to Dublin, with airport transfers. Everything went off without a hitch, except for the game.

Living out on the Left Coast has never been convenient for visiting Navy and attending ball games, but this was a loooong way to go for a ball game. Ireland was one of the places neither of us had been, so the game served as our excuse to go.

We attended a welcome event at the EPIC museum Thursday, the Guinness welcome on Friday, and the pep rally downtown on Saturday. We also registered for the tailgate, but didn't go because of time and travel constraints. Apparently, when there is an event at Aviva stadium, the police shut down all the streets around the stadium two hours before the game. How very convenient. The stadium is just under three miles from the hotel. Imagine my surprise when they said we were expected to walk to the stadium, but we took advantage of the DART train station about a block from the hotel, which went direct to the stadium.

Many fellow alums were surprised to learn they were not the oldest person there. They probably will not remember my name, but they will likely remember the old guy who had to go pee every 30 minutes. (I missed the flyover and one of ND's touchdowns.)

Aviva stadium is a fabulous venue. Couldn't have had a grander place to have a game. We had a great time, despite the fact that not everything was convenient for old folks. This trip, and my career as an airline pilot have left me with a theory that the people in that part of the world, who design and build hotel rooms and

bathrooms, never use them. Either that, or they have a mean streak.

I have stopped carrying cameras on trips, as my cell phone is just too handy, so I don't have any fancy artwork, and most of it you can get off Google anyway. I just wanted to let you know that our class was present in Dublin.
—Dennis Vied



Dennis & Karen Vied in Dublin

Lastly, from **Jim Knorr :**

☒ While in the midst of a "Wife Beth Ordered", "Tivate Your Room!" I found these pictures/mentos of a 2007 Navy Football team gathering, finding a few days to play Golf together in North Carolina, not very far from the Links where they play the MASTERS. Coach WAYNE HARDIN knew his way around when he recruited and found time to relax!

'60 Starting Guard, John Michalski, although having suffered a leg injury, and on Injured

Reserve Status, being a Wilkes Barre, PA lad, looked after his fellow Pennsylvanians and contacted me, a Plebe Navy football center, with some golf talent (from Scranton, PA) and got me signed up for the Football-Golf Expedition down south. You may note that John got miraculously well and got into the Post- Golf hob-knobbing with Heisman Guys, Joe B. '61 and Roger S. '65. I must say that I, as a two-striper in 20th Company was Joe Bellino's Platoon Commander as a Firsty and saw MIDN 3/C BELLINO in Ranks 3 Meals a Day. He was a sharp looking and squared away Midshipmen and I never had any trouble with him in Bancroft Hall. As most Mids already know from the literature written, he was a Navy baseball player, catcher for sure, and found the time to keep up with his academic studies.

As an addition to my contact with Joe BELLINO, I tell a quick story about Army-Navy Football and B-Robes. Plebe Year, 1956, we lost and my friend Tom Eynon, who was recruited by West Point and also one of our local footballers who visited USNA in earlier years with me and played halfback for Clarke Summit H.S., won my B-Robe in 56! Surprisingly, years later, Tom Eynon and Joe Bellino attended the same gym near Boston. Tom mentioned to him that he would like to would like to get rid of "Jim's scruffy B-Robe" and Joe diligently, mailed to its rightful owner...who accepted it, reluctantly.

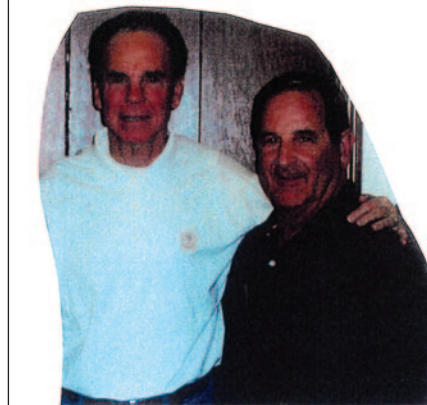
BLUE	331	552	177	397	326	195	349	642	445	3314
WHITE	308	501	156	369	293	179	300	504	429	3339
GOLD	255	465	140	340	270	145	260	450	370	2695
HDCP	17	1	15	7	9	11	15	8	4	10
PAR	4	5	5	4	5	5	4	3	6	

Joe Bellino #27

PLAYER	574	320	337	148	369	403	511	176	418	3245	6560
	518	267	306	120	329	354	486	143	389	2912	5951
	460	260	275	110	305	295	470	110	345	2630	5325
	6	18	14	16	2	8	4	10	2		
	9	4	4	3	4	4	5	3	4	36	72

Raymond

NAVY HEISMAN TROPHY WINNERS



BOB RIEFSNYDER
MAXWELL AWARD WINNER
'58

'60: 1955-1964 Navy Football Alumni, Coach Wayne Hardin, ERA BLUE-GOLD Golf Classic 20-21 March 2007

60/61 CLASS NEWS

In 1957 we lost to Army (me thinks that Plebes could not play football in those days, and Joe B. played Plebe Ball). (Someone will correct me, but I do believe that our 20th Company won the Field Ball Championship (Field Ball was Played only at the Naval Academy and Indiana State Penitentiary so the story goes...), but I don't believe Joe Played for us!

My contact with Roger S. Was limited over the years, but my wife reminds me that when on board USS MERRICK (AKA -97) that took me to Vietnam on two long cruises, and I just happened to be home in Long Beach, we drove to see Roger play at Cal-Berkeley (not a win). However, a large contingent of the Knorr Family will be at Navy Football Stadium when two # Twelves 12 will be painted at both ends of the Field to honor our Greatest Quarterback, ROGER STAUBACH '65.

—Jim Knorr, USNA Class 1960

'61

Life Membership: 73%

Donor Participation: 25.42%

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Dear Classmates,

Mike Hoerneman checks in from cyberspace with a creative way to keep in touch.

✉ "Our *Shipmate* column frequently includes photos of company groups sitting around a table having lunch together. Our 24th Company survivors are scattered far and wide from Hawaii to Florida. We do get together every month for a Zoom call coordinated by Tom Corboy. The calls are held on the 24th of each month. (A date selected so that we all can remember it.)

"The Zoom calls are providing us with an enjoyable way to stay in touch, and they are increasingly appropriate as we are widely scattered and most of us no longer do much traveling. We all have the various health issues associated with our class's age, and have had some participants signing on from hospitals, as well as their own homes."

"The attached photo is a screenshot taken during our May session. We actually had a total of 13 this month, but Jim Rauth and Kevin Growney had signed off before this shot was taken. Shown here, from top left, are Bob Sheridan, Tom Corboy, Tony Papandrea, Bob Hanson, Al Conboy, Lon Anderson, Mike Hoernemann, Tony Passarella, Tom Knepell, Pete Kieffer, and Bill Dick. Three others, Tom Walter, Chris Nichols, Richard Sunderland have participated in previous sessions. This accounts for all but one of our known survivors



'61: Zoom 24 insert picture here caption 24th Company on ZOOM



'61: table 1 '61 at La Petite Auberge; from left: Patty Marxen, Vicki Sheahan (21), Joan Evans (21) Bob Sherer (4), Slava Sorokin, guest of Jim Connell, a colleague of Jim's in the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIA, Harry Marxen (14), Bob Oakes '59 (21) and Diana O'Connor



'61: Table 2 '61 at La Petite Auberge; from left, Chris Umberger (15), Warren Hoppe (21), John O'Connor (21), Jim Connell (2), Sue Drumm ('57), Kathy Rosenberger (6) and Bill Ciesla (18).

from the 30 who graduated together." Your correspondent managed to join the mid-Virginia group for a July 26 luncheon organized by 21st company members Warren Hoppe and John O'Connor. Not in a mood for sidewalk dining in the 90's weather, we stuck to the air-conditioned interior of La Petite

Auberge in Fredericksburg. It was a good opportunity for the Maryland/DC group to get out of town and visit with the country dwellers.

Your correspondent, also the photographer, pleads guilty to missing Donna Ralston-Latham next to Bill Ciesla, in the above photo, so here she is in her own picture.