

Jay Christian Metzler



Jay C. Metzler passed away on 10 October 2023 in Canandaigua, NY, following a lengthy illness.

Jay was born in Mount Joy, PA, to Elizabeth Ober and Christian B. Metzler on 18 March 1937. He attended school in Mount Joy, and as a talented high school athlete, competed at the state level in both tennis and basketball, becoming a highly sought-after college prospect.

Jay entered the U.S. Naval Academy in 1956, and his athletic skills in lacrosse and basketball led Navy to outstanding success. As a lacrosse midfielder, he helped his team to earn the national title in 1960. As center for the basketball team, Jay racked up 848 points and 548 rebounds during his career and was inducted into the Navy Athletics Hall of Fame.

Upon graduation in 1960, Jay was selected for advanced education at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the Civil Engineering Corps Officers' School. He served in Vietnam from 1965 to 1966 and earned the Bronze Star.

Upstate New York. He worked for Corning Glass for several years before moving to Rochester, NY, where he took a job with Schlegel Corporation. In 1978, he received an Executive MBA from Harvard University. He worked at Schlegel for over 20 years as the VP of Worldwide Operations until its successful sale in 1988. Jay then joined Hauser Corporation and Fluoro Film Incorporated, where he served as their president and CEO for the remainder of his career. Jay met his wife, Gail, in Annapolis while she was visiting the Naval Academy with a friend. He asked her to go to church, and the rest was history. They were married a year after graduation, on 10 June 1961. Over the next seven years, the Metzler family grew with the arrival of their children, Darce, Danielle and Jay. Unlike many of his classmates, the Metzlers stayed in Upstate New York. In his free time, Jay enjoyed camping, hunting, and fishing with his family and friends.

Jay is survived by his wife, Gail; daughters, Darce and Danielle; son, Jay; and six grandchildren, Abigail, Matthew, Meredith, Bryce, Kirsten and Matilda.

November-December 2023 Shipmate