

Christian Herndon Poindexter



“Chris” Poindexter passed away peacefully on 16 October 2023 in Severna Park, MD.

Born in Evansville, IN, to Ellen and Marlan Poindexter, he graduated from the Naval Academy with distinction with “Super ’60.” Five days later, he married the love of his life, Marilyn Ann Mills.

Chris served as an A-4 pilot aboard FORRESTAL (CVA-59). In 1963, he received orders from Admiral H.G. Rickover to report to Nuclear Power School and graduated first in his class. He served aboard JOHN KING (DDG-3), CONYNGHAM (DDG-17) and SELLERS (DDG-11).

Entering the private sector as a senior engineer at Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE), he spearheaded the planning and licensing of the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant. He became treasurer of BGE after earning an MBA from Loyola University and served as CEO/chairman of the board until his retirement in 2003.

Chris served on 38 boards, including the USNA Foundation, Johns Hopkins University and Medicine, Boy Scouts of America (BSA), Greater Baltimore Committee, Historic Annapolis Foundation, and many nuclear industry boards.

In 2000, he was named Engineer of the Year at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) College of Engineering.

Chris was active at St. Martin’s-in-the-Field Episcopal Church in Severna Park, where he was senior warden on the church vestry and chairman of the Stewardship and Search committees. Chris was very proud that both his sons and grandsons are Eagle Scouts. He served on the BSA National Board of Directors and was chairman of the board of the Baltimore Area Council. He was awarded the Silver Beaver, Silver Antelope, God and Country, the Henry Rosenberg Sr. Distinguished Citizen, and the Whitney M. Young Jr. service awards.

An avid golfer, expert woodworker and award-winning photographer, Chris enjoyed taking pictures throughout his travels to 70 different countries.

Chris and Marilyn funded a professorship in Cardiology at Johns Hopkins and generously supported many institutions, including the Boy Scouts of America and the Naval Academy. Chris is survived by Marilyn, his wife of 63 years; sons, Scott (Mary Claire) and Todd (Kristy); grandchildren, Jacob, Christian, Emily and Matthew; brother, John (Linda); and sisters, Candace Treibic (Donald) and Julia Gunn (Malcom). Chris was predeceased by his granddaughter, Catherine, and nephew, Alan.

January-February 2024 Shipmate