

SIBLEY LOGAN WARD



Captain Sibley L. Ward, USN (Ret.), of Coronado, CA, died on 23 July 2024 with his wife, Susan, by his side.

“Sam” was born to a Navy family, in Bremerton, WA, in 1939. He graduated from Coronado High School in 1956 and from the U.S. Naval Academy with the Class of 1960. He and his high school sweetheart, Susan Schade (daughter of Vice Admiral Arnold F. Schade '33), married that June. Upon commissioning, he began training in the Navy Nuclear Power program. In 1967, he attended Harvard and received a master's degree.

Sam's Navy career included: Regulus missile submarine patrols while serving on HALIBUT; Baltic Sea Cold War patrols as engineer on SKATE; and as executive officer on HAMMERHEAD. As XO, he navigated to the North Pole with periscope celestial navigation and was awarded his first (of six) Legion of Merit for doing so. He assumed command of ARCHERFISH, where he was respected and beloved by his shipmates. Later, he was commodore of the DevRon 12 Submarine Squadron, and then commanding officer of the Submarine School in Groton, CT. He concluded his 26-year naval career as the first submariner to be chief of staff of a surface carrier group (CarGru 12).

Upon retirement, he had a successful career in business, eventually retiring as Vice President of Program Managers with SAIC in San Diego, CA.

Sam was active in the Episcopal church, serving as a leader of stewardship and planned giving, as well as senior warden in three different parishes, including Christ Church in Coronado. Sam remained committed to the Navy community until his death and was an active member of the Naval Submarine League Pacific Southwest Chapter, also serving as president for many years.

An avid singer, Sam enjoyed many years in the San Diego Master Chorale and served as president for several years. His rich baritone was always appreciated.

Sam is survived by his wife of 64 years, Susan Schade Ward; their children, Rita Fucella (Joe), Rebecca Ward, Renée Farnham (Austin) and Rodney Ward '91 (Erica); his sister, Laurie; brother, Keno; 14 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

November-December 2024 Shipmate