

Donald Earl Broadfield



Captain Donald Earl Broadfield of Jeffersonton, Virginia passed away on 8 October 2026 at the age of 90. Don was born on a small farm near Yates City, Illinois on 11 August 1936 to Orville and Gladys Broadfield. His early school years were spent at two one-room country schools. He graduated from Yates City High School in May 1954. He was appointed to the United States Naval Academy in 1956, graduating in June 1960 as a member of the 22nd Company.

Following graduation, Don attended Nuclear Power School, Nuclear Power Training, and Submarine School. Upon completion of training, he reported to the USS Shark (SSN 591) in March 1962.

Subsequent shipboard assignments included the USS John C.

Calhoun (SSBN 630), USS Shark (SSN 591) (as Engineer Officer), USS Archerfish (SSN 678) (as Executive Officer), USS Sturgeon (SSN 637) (as Commanding Officer), and USS Holland (AS 32) (as Commanding Officer). He also completed assignments as Operations Officer, Submarine Squadron Ten, a post-Executive Officer tour on the Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board, Atlantic Fleet, and Deputy Commander, Submarine Squadron Four. His final tour of duty was as Deputy Director, Deep Submergence Systems Division (OP-23B). Following his naval career, Don worked for TRW/Northrop Grumman and Sonalysts Corporation for a combined 30 years. Less than a year after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, Don retired to his home in rural Virginia.

Don leaves behind his wife of 66 years, Beverly; his son, Donald, Jr. (Alysia) Broadfield; his daughters, Marilyn (Paul) Babick and Bonnie (Brian) White; his sister, Marjorie Haahn; ten grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his son, Douglas (Julie) Broadfield, and his brother, Raymond Broadfield.

Don will be remembered for his generous spirit and the sage guidance he provided to his family, friends, and colleagues. His life will be measured not in the things he owned but in the relationships he cherished, from his beloved wife and children to the grandkids on his shoulders, riding along on his tractor, or fishing alongside him on the dock. He will be dearly missed.

Moser Funeral Home