

Shipmate October- November 2018
Duke Longworth
25 September 2018

As I write this column fall is arriving, but as you read this fall will be on its way out! For now, I'll enjoy all those favorite seasonal things – changing foliage colors, cooler air, and football! GO NAVY! Lots to report!

First up is a note from **Brent Green**: “Hi Duke, I was going through some old slides (many of them quite dusty) a while back. Thought I would pass along a few of them. The first is from first class cruise when 5 of us on the *USS Shangri-La* climbed Mount Fuji after we left Yankee Station in the summer of 1970. You can recognize, left to right, **Sonny Naples**, **Jocko Jastrab**, **Mike Greene**, **Brian Horais**, and me. As you can tell, it was chilly and foggy on the peak where they had a temple.



CAPTION: (L-R) Sonny, Jocko, Mike, Brian and Brent

“The others are from crew days during one of those joyous workouts in the winter. Four ‘71ers in the shell: you, **Will Felts**, **Frank Wnek**, and me. Best regards, Brent.” Nice remembrances for sure! Thank you! See you this fall!



CAPTION: In the middle – Brent and Duke, at the back Will and Frank

Next is a note from **Jeff Albright**: “Duke, here is a picture of the four of us during a recent visit by Pat and **Jay Minnich** to Albuquerque NM. Dinner was at the El Pinto Restaurant, a popular restaurant featuring New Mexican cuisine, and over 160 different margaritas! And despite our best efforts by all four of us, we still have over 140 left to try! (Just a SLIGHT exaggeration.) Jeff.” Nice work on those margaritas! Looking forward to seeing you and Beth this fall!



CAPTION: L-R Jeff, Jay, Pat, and Beth (standing)

Here's a note from **Perry Martini**: "A reunion of sorts was held for the Class of '71 during the first home game weekend when Navy pulled an upset and come from behind victory over conference rival Memphis. This time, however, it was a reunion of USNA and USMA prep school roommates from the Bordentown Military Institute (BMI) class of 1967 as **Mike McNallen**, **Steve Dmetruk**, **Perry Martini** and George Cullen (USMA '71) were joined by two other West Point grads Joe Albano '71 and Hugh Macdonald '71. Joe was a wide receiver in his heyday at Army and was instrumental in scoring long TDs during the '69 and '70 games against us in Philadelphia. Also joining in on the fun during the weekend were classmates **Tom O'Brien**, Diane and **Dan Nelson** and **Bill McKinney**. It was a great gathering of events during the long weekend and the West Point boys and their wives not only enjoyed a first class tour of our Yard but also witnessed quite the victory against Memphis." That surely was a superb win by Navy and a fun weekend with former rivals and brothers in arms! Thank you!



CAPTION: Perry Martini, Mike McNallen, George Cullen USMA '71 and Steve Dmetruk.



Group photo CAPTION: L-R front row seated: Pam McNallen, Rosemary Cullen, Suzy Dmetruk; Second row: Jean Martini, Diane Nelson, Carmella Albano, High and Sabrina Macdonald. L-R back row: Perry Martini, Joe Albano (USMA '71), Mike McNallen, George Cullen (USMA '71), Steve Dmetruk, and Dan Nelson.

Here's a '71 gymnastics team update from **Fred Klein**: "After visiting the Navy Men's Gymnastics Team in January, I was invited by coach Kip Simons to talk to the gymnastic team members from class of 2021 as part of the ALITC program. My Navy roommate, **John Long**, joined in the visit on Sept 6th. We spoke to the whole team and talked about our careers and experiences that shaped our lives. The mids were very receptive and asked good questions. We through in a few stories as well. With social media and world events ever more volatile, the grounding of leadership principles continues to have significant importance. We offered our continued efforts as a resource for the team and coaches as they move along in their busy schedules. It's always a great time to visit Mother B and the yard." Thank you! I hope you and John keep up the superb leadership work!



CAPTION: Fred and John with '21 gymnasts.

Mark Horgan provided this 36th Company update: “Duke, On Saturday, September 8th, we concluded the 13th Annual Reunion at Lake Placid Class of '71 cohort of the 36th CO. Eleven classmates traveled to upstate New York from as far away as Illinois, Texas, Georgia, and Alabama, as well as the DC area & Northeast. Pictured here following dinner at Caffè Rustica are (around the table from the left) **Lee Burgess, Bruce Gallemore, Jan Milligan, Jim Barron, Garry Holmstrom, Mike Trice, Rich (“Sonny”) Naple, Mark Horgan, Craig Welling, Don Beaudette** and **Robbie Roberson**.



“Last year we changed the event from a winter to a summer format by gathering lakeside during the week following Labor Day instead of; this year we added a fourth night giving us three full days together. Extending our stay allowed us to relax and enjoy hiking, climbing, golfing and boating - something for everyone. We also had some great food (wine courtesy of our in-house oenophile, Mike Tric), watched movies and savored the fellowship you’d find among friends who have known each other for over 50 years. As a final note, we hoisted a toast in remembrance of our recently passed classmate, **Clive Graham**, the latest 36er to go before us, joining **Ron Spratt**, **Lee Daley**, **Jan Sparks**, **Bob Brubaker** and **Sully Sullivan**.

“We’re already looking forward to September 9-13, 2019. Hope to see you then if not before. Best, Mark” Surely sounds like lots of fun! I have my calendar marked for 2019!

Regretfully, there are four classmates, who passed away this summer.

Robert C. Baierl passed away on June 20, 2018 in Bradford Woods, PA. Bob joined us on June 1967 as a member of the 22nd Company and departed at the end of plebe year in 1968. He was a starting defensive end on our Varsity Plebe Football

Team. After departing USNA he went on to become a Division 3 'Little All-America' at Westminster College in Pennsylvania. He is survived by his wife Cathy of 48 years, son Robert, Jr. and three grandchildren.

Thomas L. "Tom" Sydnor of Huntingtown, MD, passed away on Saturday, July 14, 2018. Tom and his wife, Sandra, has just celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary on June 12, 2018. Tom retired from the Navy in 1996 as a Captain. He then worked as an engineer for Baltimore Gas & Electric. He enjoyed all types of sports. He loved coaching and teaching kids about them. He was a very active member of Jesus the Divine Word Catholic Church in Huntingtown, MD. Tom is survived by mother, and his children – **Tom L. Sydnor, Jr. '94**, (Rebecca), Deborah Michelle Pickering (Stephen), **Dan G. Sydnor '07** and Nicholas B. Sydnor. He was the devoted grandfather of four children. His interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Tom's name to the *Save the Storks*, 4050 Lee Vance View, Suite 300, Colorado Springs, CO 80918 ~ www.savethestorks.com.

Ted Hermeling passed away on 7 August in Fairfax, VA due to complications from a brain aneurysm. Herm was from New Martinsville, WV. He started in 6th Company finished in the 24th CO. He was a manager for the varsity football team three years, and was a valuable contributor to winning company sports teams. One of '71's academic stars, Ted excelled as an Operations Analysis major receiving all A's and only one B. Graduating with distinction, he was selected to attend Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey immediately upon graduation. Ted retired in 1991 after 20 years as a Submarine Warfare Officer, Staff Officer for the CNO, and Project Manager for the POSEIDON and TRIDENT navigation systems. Following his service, he worked as a contractor and Program Manager for the Tomahawk Cruise Missile Operations and Acquisition Division. Most recently, he managed the NASA Goddard Space Center Safety and Mission Assurance Service Contract for ARES Technical Services.

He loved his family, friends, the St. Louis Cardinals and Navy Football. Ted volunteered his time in youth sports serving both as a baseball coach and on the National Capital Soccer League (NCSL) Executive Committee. Ted is survived by his wife, Kay, two sons, **Theodore Allen Hermeling III '02** and **Christopher Hermeling '06** of Wexford, PA. He was grandfather of five.

Funeral services were held at the Naval Academy Chapel followed by inurnment at the USNA Columbarium.

Clive Graham, Jr., of 36th Company, who died suddenly on Tuesday 14 August of a heart attack after completing a meeting in his home town of Long Beach, CA. Following graduation he served in PacFleet on surface combatants as a Surface

Warfare Officer. Upon the death of his father, Clive left the Navy to manage and lead the family's Real Estate and Property Management firm in Long Beach. He remained a strong Navy supporter for many years serving Navy organizations and events in the Long Beach area. He is survived by his wife, Dori, and his brother **Bret Graham '73**.

Dori Graham has requested, and would enjoy, some letters, notes, and cards in lieu of flowers or donations. Especially of those of shared memories of our four years by the Bay with Clive. Her Address: 1125 Orizaba Ave, Long Beach, CA 90804. May he rest in peace. A memorial for Clive was held on 20 October.

Too soon it's time to close. Please keep our classmates and their families in your prayers for good health, healing when needed, and safety in their travels. Our classmates in leadership as well as those in volunteer organizations need our thoughts and prayers, too. For everything there is a season and a purpose. Today is the gift of "the present." Life is precious and too short –love passionately, give and share your blessings generously with others – as we are richly blessed so may we richly bless others. Remember, too, that words have the power to elevate and to destroy, so use your words carefully! Give thanks for your many blessings, especially for family and of citizenship in our great nation. As much as ever, this is the time for us to be actively shaping the future of our great nation. There is plenty of work remaining as we increase our wisdom! Time, tide and column due dates wait for no man!

Duces Virum, Duke