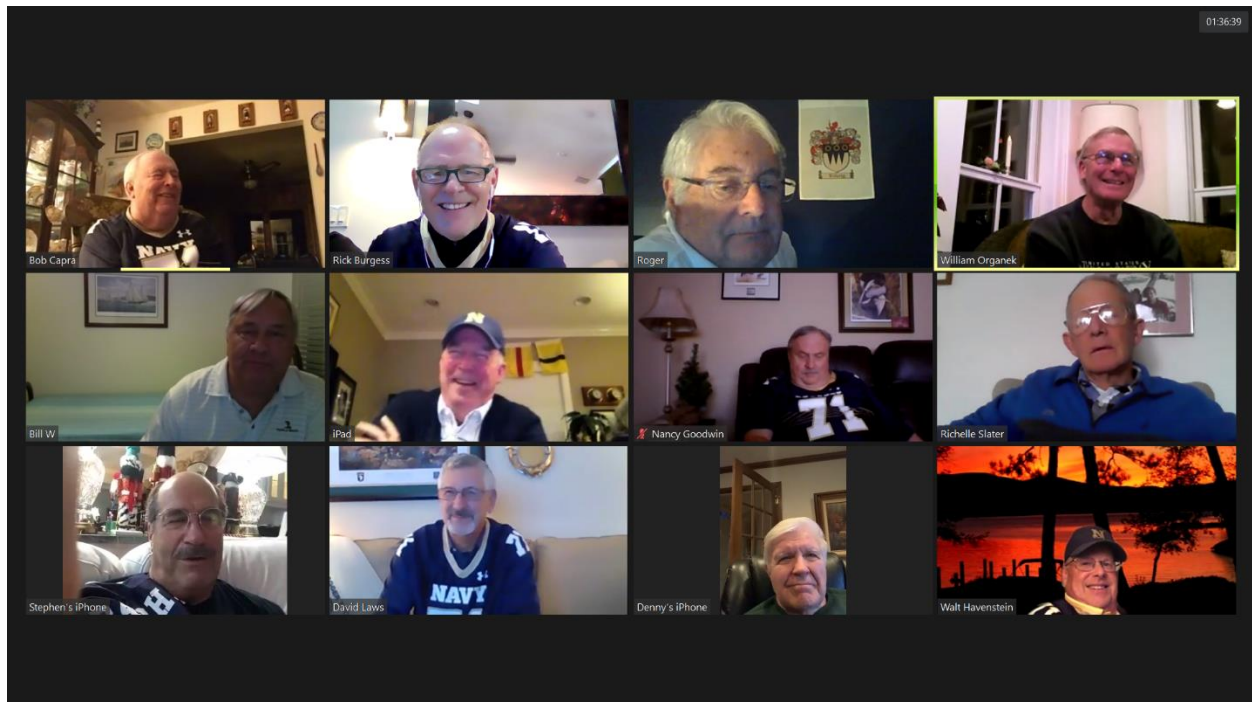


Shipmate Mar-Apr 2021
Duke Longworth
29 January 2021

What a crazy fall and early winter! It seems life keeps throwing us challenges as the days pass! I am looking forward to a more “normal” time when we can meet again in Annapolis for a football game!

Speaking of football, I joined several ‘classmates on a Zoom call for an Army-Navy “tailgate” prior to the game. You can rest assured the tailgate went well; however, the game results were not what we hope to see!

Here’s a note from **David Laws**: “Duke, 14th Company had a Zoom call to watch the Army-Navy game together. Although we were disappointed in the results of the valiant efforts of our Navy team, we had a great time catching up, learning how each other is doing in pandemic times, and occasionally telling stories that had not departed too much from the original. A few wives joined us from time to time, but for some reason, when they heard the stories we were telling, they left. From left to right, top to bottom, **Bob Capra, Rick Burgess, Roger Young, Bill Organeck, Bill Williams, Mike Newman, Bob Goodwin, Chip Slater, Steve Raphael, Dave Laws, Denny Desmond, and Walt Havenstein. Ed Kellogg** also joined us but had dropped off before this photo was taken. Serve now, serve all, serve together, David.” Excellent photo! Sounds like a good time for good friends!



14th Company watching Army-Navy

Here's a note from **Bruce Gallemore** with a blast from the past: "I found this old picture of some of our crew on a happy day in 1986. We were all stationed in



(L-R) Craig Welling, Garry Holmstrom, Mark Horgan, Ron Spratt, Bruce Gallemore

Washington and had a great evening at **Garry Holmstrom's** house. One person did not get the dress code memo. Hope you all are weathering the 'storm' enjoyably. Bruce." Excellent photo! The crew was a happy group!



Tom and Becky Bowman

Tom Bowman and I recently shared several emails in which we discussed our shared experience at VA-174 in Jacksonville, FL. Tom was completing A-7E training as I arrived to start training. Our sea duty paths did not intersect after A-7 training. Tom and Becky are very happy as you can see in the photo below!

Sadly, since my last column four classmates have passed away.

Bruce Eric "Rick" Rychener of Salisbury, MD, peacefully passed away on Monday, December 14, 2020 at his home. Born in Toledo, Ohio. Rick graduated out of the 33rd Company and was a proud member of the Drum & Bugle Corps. Following graduation he served two tours on active duty. Rick then worked as a Surface Naval Engineer, building ships for the US Navy, at the Pascagoula Shipyards in Mississippi. He also worked as a defense contractor in Crystal City, VA and later Wallops Island, VA. Finally managing his own kitchen and bathroom design company, CEA Associates out of Salisbury, MD. He was a member and past commander of the American Legion Post 64 (Salisbury, MD) and the VFW Meuse Post 194 (Salisbury, MD) where he enjoyed playing shuffleboard. Rick owned a sailboat and continued to indulge in his love of the sea. He and Coral very much enjoyed travelling together in their retirement, especially cruising to areas including Alaska, the Mexican Riviera, and the Caribbean Islands. Rick is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Coral Lee Reyer Rychener; three daughters: Boni Jean Rychener; Beth Anne Townsend; and, Beki Lynn Bradford, and seven grandchildren. A memorial service will be held June 14th, 2021, at 2:00 pm, at the USNA Chapel and Columbarium. Please visit www.hollowayfh.com to express condolences to the family.

Michael C. Shell died on 4 December 2020. After graduating from Walton County High School in Defuniak Springs Florida in 1964 he attended two years of college before graduating from NAPS in May 1967. Mike was a member of the 33rd/14th company and departed USNA after plebe summer in September and later completed his service commitment in Vietnam prior to his honorable discharge in 1969. He was a loving husband to Sandra Strickland Shell and father to Jennifer Steele and Chris Shell and three grandchildren. Michael and Sandra recently celebrated 50 years of marriage and devoted their marriage to their family, travel, and serving others. Michael shared his love of travel with his family. He and Sandra traveled around the world seeing over 100 different countries.

Edward C. "Ted" Hines passed away in Tidewater Virginia on 1 December 2020. Ted graduated out of 28th Company. Unfortunately, I have no other information regarding his passing.

Vince Esposito suffered a heart attack in Martinsburg, WV on 30 June 2020; however, news of his death only reached us early in January. Vince came to us from New Jersey after spending a year in ROTC and raised his hand on T-Court 28 June 1967. Vince was a Log cartoonist and helped design the '71 Class Crest. He also led the building of all the Homecoming Floats 1st Class Year, as well as the exhibits in the Yard during football season. Following graduation out of the 19th Company, Vince entered the nuclear submarine

force serving on active duty for ten years aboard the USS Bergall (SSN-667) and later on the USS Tinosa (SSN-606) both out of New London, CT. He then served ten years in the reserves retiring as a commander. Vince began his public career as an Engineer and received his Master of Electrical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI). He then worked in finance for several utility companies and international consulting firms. For the last 15 years he had a successful career in the Civil Service with the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Health and Human Services, before he retired from government service in March 2020. His ashes will be interred in Arlington National Cemetery at a date yet to be determined.

Too soon, it is time to close. Please keep our classmates and their families in your prayers for good health, especially protection from the COVID-19 virus, healing when needed, and safety in their travels. Today is the gift of “the present.” Certainly, this pandemic highlights how 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. Our leadership at home, in our social circles, and in daily routines is vital to maintaining our nation’s constitutional republic. Now is the time to shape the future of our great nation as we strive for a more perfect union. There is plenty of work remaining as we increase our wisdom! Time, tide and column due dates wait for no man!

Duces Virum, Duke