

WEEKLY DENTAL UPDATE



SPECIAL EDITION

9 June 2014

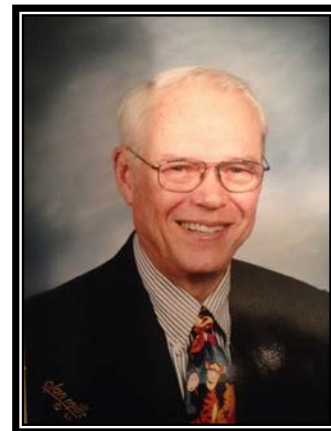
INSIDE THIS ISSUE: Passing of a Shipmate

PASSING OF CAPT DAVID ARDELL ROPER, DC, USN, RETIRED

20 May 1932 – 28 May 2014

David Ardell Roper, 82, died May 28, 2014 in Virginia Beach. He was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Arlene S. Roper, his brother, Frank Moore Roper, and parents Luby Eugene Roper and Dorothy Moore Roper.

Born in Hickman, Kentucky on May 20, 1932 in his childhood home, he attended the University of Kentucky and graduated from Murray State. He earned a D.D.S. from the University of Louisville in 1958, then entered the United States Navy Dental Corps where he served his country for more than 30 years. He retired as a Captain in 1988 and settled in Virginia Beach, Virginia.



David lived a life of grace, non-judgment, humor, kindness, and Christian faith. He loved his country, his family and his God, proudly serving all throughout his life.

He began his career in Norfolk. He then deployed on the USS Fremont, followed by duty at Dental Clinics at Pensacola, Honolulu, San Diego, Cherry Point, Iwakuni, Okinawa, Norfolk, the Washington Navy Yard, and returning full circle to Virginia Beach before making it his permanent home.

His family and his friends were blessed to be the center of his daily life and remember fondly his love of music, the beach, golf, dancing, games and theatre. He loved people, a good joke, Kentucky v. Louisville basketball, weekly dinner at Sara and Marvin Nissenson's and a great day on Kentucky Lake. He and Arlene traveled extensively during his career and in retirement through Elderhostels and cruises. Later in life, he regularly traveled to visit childhood friends in Kentucky, in particular Sara Don Middleton. Throughout his life, David was deeply involved in his church community, serving on the Vestry at every duty station. For the past 30 years, he was an active member of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Kempsville as a member of the Vestry, the counting teams, Cursillo, the choir, Men's Prayer Group, and supporting Martha's Ministry. He delivered Meals on Wheels, participated in retreats, shared fellowship with the same group on Thursdays and volunteered for various odd jobs at the church. He was a faithful servant.

He is survived by his daughter, Gail Roper Caltrider, her husband Arthur Caltrider, their two children Michelle and her fiancé Richmond Page, and Matthew and his wife, Grace; his son, Christopher, his wife Korri Danley Roper, and their daughter Alea, her fiancé Bradley Coss and youngest granddaughter Kasey.

A memorial was held in Emmanuel Episcopal Church Saturday, June 7, 2014, at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial donation may be made to Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 5181 Singleton Way, Virginia Beach, VA 23462.

S. M. Pachuta
Chief, Navy Dental Corps