



Robert Hugh Rositzke

September 14, 1935 - September 13, 2019

Commander Robert H. Rositzke, USN (Ret.)

On September 13, 2019, a day before his 84th birthday. Born September 14, 1935 in Jamaica, NY, Robert Hugh Rositzke was son of the late Dorothea & Rudolph Rositzke. Bob was raised in Queens Village, Long Island, NY, where he participated in church, sports and Boy Scout activities, achieving Eagle Scout status. Bob graduated with honors from Brooklyn Tech HS in 1952. He received his congressional appointment in 1953 & graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1957. As a midshipman, Bob was Chief Engineer of the Academy Radio Station (WRNV).

His 24-year naval service (1957-1981) was comprised of amphibious, mine warfare & destroyer assignments. Bob was deployed off the coast of Vietnam as a Weapons Officer on the USS Lynde McCormick (DDG-8).

In 1969 he joined the staff for Commander Naval Air Forces Pacific Fleet as an Engineering Duty Officer, due to his specialty in Electronics. In this capacity he was responsible for the overhaul & refueling of an 8-reactor nuclear aircraft carrier, USS Enterprise (CVN-65). This was followed by a tour at HQ for the Naval Sea Systems Command, serving on the Admiral's staff. During Bob's final naval assignment as Technical Director of the Nuclear Aircraft Carrier Acquisition Project, he participated in the Fleet Delivery of two nuclear carriers, USS Nimitz (CVN-68) & USS Eisenhower (CVN-69). A second career

followed with the Marine Systems Division of Rockwell Int'l in Washington, DC, as Director of Combat Systems Integration Group, working on US & foreign projects. After Rockwell, Bob started his own company, Empire Video Inc., a film & video production company. He produced over 800 projects, mostly on naval & military subjects. Bob was especially proud of the film, To Lead and to Serve, which was used extensively for Naval Academy recruiting.

In "retirement" Bob was very active in his church. He co-founded Reveille, a Men's Ministry Group, & a Military Family Support Group at Christ United Methodist Church.

Bob is survived by his wife of 33 years, Maxetta; three daughters with former spouse, the late June S. Fuller Rositzke: Anne Lipscomb (Dannie), Sue Howard (Rawls), & Kate de Gastyne (Paul); stepdaughter Diana Bridger (John); grandchildren Emily, David & Matthew Randolph; Joshua, Aaron, Lindsay & Anne Michele de Gastyne; Sarah Glenn (Kyle), Claire & Brennan Bridger; & great-grandson Declan Randolph. Bob was preceded in death by his sister Joanne Grant & stepson Michael Cearlock.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society &/or to Christ United Methodist Church, Fairfax Station, VA. Celebration services are planned for September 30, 2019 at 10:00 am at Christ United Methodist Church, 7600 Ox Rd, Fairfax Station, VA. Interment to follow at Quantico National Cemetery. For details see: www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP 30. 10:00 AM (ET)

Christ United Methodist Church
7600 Ox Road
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

Graveside Service

SEP 30. 2:00 PM (ET)

Quantico National Cemetery
18424 Joplin Rd
Triangle, VA 22172

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Hugh Rositzke*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *I am so sad I missed Bob's passing. We lost touch close to 30 years ago and reconnected on Facebook 5 years ago. Unfortunately, we didn't stay in touch. Bob started my professional journey in life on a path that came full circle to being the filmmaker and photographer that I am today. You will be missed my friend. God be with you on your journey in to the unknown.*

Thomas Petzwinkler - April 01, 2021 at 11:08 AM



“ *Bob was a dear friend. He inspired me with his dedication and enthusiasm. A great American and an outstanding Naval Officer, Bob served his Lord and Savior by dedicated service to his fellow human beings.*

Bill Weise, BGen, USMC (Retired)

William "Bill" Weise - October 02, 2019 at 10:11 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Robert Hugh Rositzke.*



September 27, 2019 at 09:34 PM

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“ *Bob and I were room mates at the Naval Academy for 4 years and were friends forever. He will be missed. Ken Malley*

Kenneth Malley - September 26, 2019 at 07:53 PM