

WALKER RAITT GOODRICH JR.

“Casey” Goodrich died peacefully and unexpectedly on 17 May 2014 in Monaco, where he lived with his wife, Josette.

Born on 23 January 1936 to Colonel Walker R. Goodrich Sr. (USMA '32) and Alice (Gotham) Goodrich, he grew up on a range of Army posts in the U.S. and overseas. He attended West Point and is one of the very few men to have experienced plebe year at both West Point and Annapolis.

He entered the Naval Academy on a vice presidential appointment, enrolling and graduating with the Class of 1960. During First Class Year, Casey was company commander of the Sixth Company.

Following graduation, Casey served one tour of duty on a destroyer, then opted for Submarine School where, on completion, he was assigned to the Atlantic Fleet diesel submarine force.

He met the love of his life, Josette Fabre des Essarts, while his ship was on a Mediterranean cruise; they were married in August 1964.

Casey served on several Atlantic submarines until 1970, when he was assigned to JUSMAGG (Joint U.S. Military Aid Group, Greece). He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding service during his duties as staff operations and plans officer and Submarine Advisor Operations Branch, Navy Section, Joint United States Military Aid Group, Greece. Casey's final active duty station was with the Allied Naval Forces Southern Europe (NATO) in Naples, Italy. During that time, he also attended night school offered by Boston University and upon successful completion, was awarded a master of arts in international relations and master of science in business administration.

He retired from active service in 1981 and moved to Monaco to work for the Onassis family shipping company, managing deployments, schedules and logistics for the company's fleet. When the company moved its headquarters to London, Casey remained in Monaco, where he and Josette opened and successfully operated a retail business, offering Belgian luxury women's leather handbags.

Casey is survived by his wife of 50 years, Josette Goodrich.

He will be remembered for his accomplishments, his tenacity, his impish wit, his ability to torture the English language and his gentle manner. For the many of us who benefitted from his presence in our lives, we mourn his passing and wish him “fair winds and a following sea.”

July-August 2014 Shipmate