

James Russell McLean



James McLean passed away at his home in Clifton, VA, on 14 May 2013. He was 75 years old.

“Jim” was a native of Rowland, NC, and entered the U.S. Naval Academy directly from high school. While at the Academy, he participated in numerous activities and multiple intramural sports. He was an excellent student, a natural athlete and was always available and willing to assist Classmates within the demanding environment of Bancroft Hall. Upon graduation and commissioning as an ensign on 8 June 1960, he commenced a surface Navy career aboard HAWKINS (DDR-873), one of the first ships at the new homeport of Mayport, FL, then CANBERRA (CAG-2), a flagship during the Cuban Missile

Crisis.

A series of interesting and demanding tours ensued, including duty in Keflavik, Iceland, where he met, wooed and married his wife of 48 years, Sigridur “Sigga.” He then became one of the Navy’s earliest computer specialists, with duty at FCCDSA Dam Neck, HQ Military Assistance Command, Saigon Vietnam during the Tet Offensive, and Naval Command (computer) System Support Activity, Washington, DC. Sandwiched in there, and a tribute to Jim’s versatility, he served as XO of TALLADEGA (LPA-208).

After the Navy, Jim continued as a computer specialist, steadily advancing to his eventual position as the Director, Information Systems for the Navy Audit Service. He retired in 1999 after 40 years of combined military service and federal civil service.

In retirement, he volunteered at Fairfax County Parks and became an avid left-handed golfer with an awesome game off the tee, shots that went out of sight, occasionally straight and shooting a hole-in-one TWICE. Equally important in his life, he and Sigga delighted in their grandchildren and the opportunity to help out their working parents.

Jim is survived by his wife, Sigga; two sons, David and Patrick; and four grandsons.

The McLean Family