

Arthur Eduard Wegner



Arthur E. Wegner died on 27 January 2014, after a long and courageous battle with lung cancer.

“Art” grew up in Madison, WI, and after spending a year at the University of Wisconsin, transferred to the Naval Academy. He earned his BSME degree with distinction and served as the deputy brigade commander.

After graduation, Art spent seven years as a nuclear submarine officer. He left active duty to earn his M.B.A. at Harvard and served for an additional two years in the Naval Reserve, leaving with the rank of lieutenant commander. Art believed that his experience at the Naval Academy and in the nuclear submarine program helped him develop the leadership skills that enabled an extraordinary

business career. He rose quickly through the corporate ranks and became president of United Technologies Corporation’s Aerospace and Defense Sector, responsible for 80,000 employees and overseeing several operating companies including Pratt & Whitney, Sikorsky and Hamilton Standard.

Following Art’s nearly 20 years with UTC, he became the chairman and CEO of Raytheon Aircraft, which produced and marketed both the Beech and Hawker aircraft lines. He spent seven years at Raytheon Aircraft before retiring in 2000.

Art served on, and often chaired a number of corporate, non-profit and professional boards and continued serving on boards in his retirement. He was a proud member of the Navy League and always looked forward to attending his USNA reunions and reconnecting with his shipmates. Despite his many successes and talents, Art was remarkably humble. He preferred listening to talking, and treated everyone with respect.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years Patricia (nee Vining); their daughters, Meleda W. Lowry (John) of Fort Wayne, IN, and Dr. Elisabeth K. Wegner (Kelley) of Colchester, VT; and granddaughter, Madeleine. He also leaves a brother, Richard Wegner (Pam) of Sisters Bay, WI; and sister, Ann Birk of Ayer, MA.