

ROBERT DAVIDSON CORRELL

b. June 28, 1938

d. July 21, 1993



Mike Lees and Butch Khoury remember Monty Stickles of Notre Dame slugging Bob and knocking him out when Bob went to block him. Butch followed Stickles' career with the San Francisco Forty Niners just so he could root against him. Stickles was known as the dirtiest player in the NFL and bragged about it. Butch remembered Bob starting against George Washington and seeing him leap over the entire defensive line like the scat back he was and score the winning touchdown. Pete Chabot reminisced about Bob's nickname in the 14th company. For those who have forgotten, it was LION. Tom Head remembers Bob experimenting with something that was new on the market in December 1956. It was called MAN TAN. Bob put it on so he would not look so white when he went home for Christmas leave Plebe year. The results were devastating. He went home with splotches all over. A Lion-Leopard?

Pam Correll Sigda was a student at Mount Washington College and remembers the Superintendent's Party for the football players in 1959. Two of the team had no dates, and she was asked if she wanted to come. She had her pick of Correll or Bellino. Being a smart girl she heard Bob was a striper and picked him to be with. Bob went home to his folks that Christmas and told them, "I found the girl I am going to marry." Pam and Bob were married December 1960 and he went straight from the wedding to Pensacola. Pam gave up a Fulbright Scholarship to go with him. Just like at the Naval Academy. Bob was at the top of his class at flight school and won every award there was to win. His first duty was flying A-4's out of NAS Jax onboard SARATOGA, and he participated in the follow-on Cuban Missile Crisis operations end of '62 and spring of '63. Kimberly and Bobby Junior arrived in '62 and '63.

Although he was a natural born pilot, Bob's dream was to become a doctor. So in 1965 he resigned from the Navy and was accepted at U of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor. This was a hard time for the family as there was no money for med school, and he had to quit a year and a half later. Bob started to fly commercial jets for Pan American, Todd was born in 1967, and Pan Am folded in 1969. Bob then flew for the company who built the Aero Commander. They asked him to go to the Paris Air Show and there he saw cockpit lighting developed by the French that was far superior to anything he had ever seen. He started his own company providing high quality lighting to manufacturers of private aircraft, and in 10 years it was doing very well. Charlie Della Peruta saw him at an air show in 1980. In 1981 Pam remembered Bob Jr. playing football for Lafayette against Navy. He played against Joe Tranchini's son.



Bob Jr. told this story. He remembers playing touch football with his Dad and "grasping at air" where his Dad had been a second before. He hadn't lost the moves we saw when he played for Navy. When he called Butch's cell phone it was surreal. "Hi Butch, this is Bob Correll." It was Bob Sr's voice clear as a bell. Butch was taking his daily run on the Del Mar Bluffs and almost went over the edge; it was such a shock. Here is what Bob said about his dad:

"He raised three successful children both from a career standpoint, and, more importantly, by or through the families they each are now leading. It is comforting that he successfully instilled in us the importance of a strong work ethic, high moral character, and the edict to finish everything that we started. Dad passed away while hiking out west in July 1993 and we miss him very much." What better tribute to any man could a legacy like that be, Bob Correll? Well done, shipmate, and we miss you, too!