MURRAY CAMERON NIXON

Murray C. Nixon died of colon cancer at his home in Danville, CA, on Thursday, 12 December 2002 after a courageous struggle. He was 66 years old.

Born on 30 December 1935 in Washington state, he was raised in Northern California. He received a congressional appointment and graduated from the Naval Academy in June 1960, a member of the 19th Company.

Upon graduation, he served in PROVIDENCE (CLG-6). He married Barbara Ann Benbow in September 1961, prior to attending submarine school. His first boat was WAHOO (SS-565). Subsequent tours included Nuclear Power School, HADNER (SS-568), and aide and flag lieutenant to ComSubPac. After earning an MBA at Harvard in 1970, he returned to sea as executive officer in GUDGEON (SS-567). His next tour, as executive officer of HORNE (DLG-30), was cut short by degenerative disk disease.

Separated medically in 1974, Murray became general manager and CFO of the Educational Research Corporation in Watertown, MA, a corporation that provided various educational services to federal, state, and city governments and universities. He then joined Waters Associates Incorporated in 1976 where he was director R&D for application of high-pressure liquid chromatography to clinical, research, polymer, plastic, and environmental markets.

In 1979, Murray joined the Perkin-Elmer Corporation. As general manager of the Thermal & Elemental Analysis Division, he directed engineering, R&D, and manufacturing for electro-optics, analytical instrumentation, mini-computers, avionics, and flame spraying. Murray next was president of Kontron Incorporated. Kontron is a fully owned international subsidiary of Swiss based Hoffmann-La Roche that develops, manufactures, and distributes software based instrumentation for analytical and medical markets.

In 1985, Murray founded Kingston Technologies Incorporated in Dayton, NJ. As president/CEO, he developed and commercialized products based on proprietary polymer technologies, for the ophthalmic, wound care, drug delivery, and minimally invasive medical markets.

Moving to California in 1994, Murray next founded Medacoustics Incorporated. As president/CEO he developed new medical technologies to detect and image the site of coronary artery disease non-invasively and inexpensively by localizing and imaging acoustic sounds from the heart.

Murray was blessed with a devoted family who all lived nearby. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Ann; son, Brent, and his wife Lisa and their two children; son, Drew, his wife Donna and their four children; and his daughter, Cammy.

Services were private and Murray's ashes were scattered on Mount Diablo in California.

Taylor Keith '58 Shipmate, March 2003