

## Howard Lawrence Richey



Lieutenant Colonel “Rich” Richey, USMC (Ret.), of Green Valley, AZ, passed away on 9 July 2019. He was 81 years old.

Rich was born in Chicago, IL, to Howard and Beatrice Richey and grew up in New Holstein, WI. He attended the University of Wisconsin and entered the Naval ROTC program. He took part in a nationwide competition for appointments to the Naval Academy, authorized by the Secretary of the Navy, and finished in the top ten.

Five years after graduation with the USNA Class of 1960, he made an interservice transfer to become a captain in the Marine Corps. Duties from 1965-1971 included commanding a Marine artillery battery, as staff secretary for 2nd Marine

Division, staff secretary for 3rd Marine Division and as a fire support coordinator.

Returning to the States, he served on the prestigious U.S. Marine Corps Amphibious Warfare Team. He finished his military career as Inspector-Instructor 4th Marine Division, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in Birmingham, AL.

Retirement in Alabama included being a professional photographer, advertising director and eight years as manager of office technology for BE&K Engineering.

In 2001, Rich and his wife, Sandi, fell in love with Green Valley, AZ. Rich kept busy with his handyman business, “A Man for all Fix Its,” started the Good Hands Guild in his community and helped organize the Green Valley Marine Corps League. He was an officer of the Green Valley Community Coordinating Council and chaired the Environmental Committee. He was invited to join the Registrar of Contractors Industry Advisory Council and served three years on the Pima County Planning and Zoning Commission.

A man of great wit, humor, sarcasm, intellect, integrity and honor, he was a Marine’s Marine, spit and polished, respected by all Marines he came in contact with. He was also a caring husband and father, with unconditional love for his family.

He is survived by his wife, Sandi; son, Erich; daughter, LeeAnn; brother, Jack; granddaughters, Heather, Melody, Stephanie and Nicole; grandson, Dan; nieces, Jennifer, Kris and Bree; and nephew, Brett.

His nickname, earned in the service, was Rich, which is what he made all our lives, richer. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him, but never forgotten.

*October 2019 Shipmate*