

Charles Erwin Bingemer



Commander Charles E. Bingemer, SC, USN (Ret.), died on 15 April 2025 in Myrtle Beach, SC, after enduring the ravages of Parkinson's Syndrome for several years. He was 89 years old.

"Chuck" was born in Posey County, IN, and lived his childhood in Evansville, IN. In 1953, he enlisted in the Navy with the hope of furthering his education while honoring that commitment. He lived the "American Dream"...beginning his life in very poor circumstances and ultimately graduating from the United States Naval Academy with a BS in engineering and later earning a master's degree at Kansas University in petroleum management.

His career required moving frequently, which provided the opportunity to live in and visit many places. Most memorable were the two and a half years the family lived in Rota, Spain, which, at that time, was still under the dictatorship of Franco. He retired from the Navy as a commander after 23 years of service and went on to start his own business working with Lockheed Martin. Chuck later worked for the FAA and at the age of 65, he retired fully and settled in Pawleys Island, SC, with his wife, Patty. They lived there for 20 years and spent their last years together in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Chuck was a quiet and thoughtful man who cherished integrity and honesty; qualities for which his now adult children remember him with pride. He was happiest in his later life when he was with friends and family.

Chuck is survived by his wife, Patty; their children, Stephen Bingemer (Cindy) and Rachel Hilbert (Perry); grandchildren, Stephen Bingemer Jr. (Faith), Ryan Supler and Shari Hilbert; great-grandchildren, Sophia, Cameron, Malachi and Micah; two sisters; and his favorite niece, Clista. He was predeceased by three sisters.

July-August 2025 Shipmate