



*The better part of one's life consists of his friendships  
Abraham Lincoln*

## JOHN L. DAILEY JR.

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Virginia Beach - Captain John L. Dailey Jr., USN (Ret.), passed away on March 20, 2012, at the age of 61, after an extended battle with cancer. John was born and raised in Aurora, Ill., where he graduated from Marmion Military Academy in 1969. John went on to attend the United States Naval Academy and was commissioned as an Officer in the United States Navy in June 1973 with a Bachelor of Science degree in International Security Affairs. John later earned a Masters degree in International Public Policy from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore in 1989.

John served with distinction during his 29 year naval career during which he served aboard ship, in the Pentagon, at Naval War Colleges and, most notably, as a helicopter pilot. The pinnacle of John's naval career came in 1991 when he assumed command of Helicopter Squadron H-2, based at NAS Norfolk. As Officer in Charge of Detachment, John led the squadron in theater during the Gulf War. John thoroughly embraced his service in the U.S. Navy and was in large part defined by all of its rich traditions-honor, integrity, courage, and leadership.

Upon his retirement, John embarked on a career as a writer which had long been a dream of his. John published many book reviews and articles and ultimately established a successful business as a freelance writer in Virginia Beach. A poet at heart, John loved moving people to action,



thought and emotion through the power of the written word and he touched many in this capacity.

John faced his illness in the manner he faced life itself - with steely determination and unyielding good cheer. John was preceded in death by his loving parents, Mercedes and John L. Dailey Sr. He is survived by his wife Kimberly; his three children, Christopher, Catherine, and Kara; and his stepson, Taylor Gustafson. John is also survived by his three brothers, Michael Dailey and his wife Susan, Kevin Dailey and his wife Barbara, and James Dailey.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at Hollomon-Brown Funeral Home, Kempsville Chapel. The family will receive fiends at the funeral home Friday 6 to 8 p.m. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Wounded Warriors Project @woundedwarriorproject.org. Condolences may be made to [www.captainjohndailey.com](http://www.captainjohndailey.com).



## **ANOTHER LINK IN THE CHAIN**

John, Kim and Christopher (Class of 2008)