

**U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY, CLASS OF 1975, SHIPMATE COLUMN  
MARCH 2019**

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Dear 'mates: The Dark Ages may be in force in Annapolis, but spring is on the way. Have faith Classmates! We lost our 15th Company classmate **Bill Ferris** in early December. **Chick Cikanovich, Steve Hubbard, Steve Rogers** and **Sam Dennis** joined 15th Company mates **Rick Rush, Jim Hanna, Keith Carl, Peter Engelman, Dave Thomson, Barry Fosberg, Steve Sylvast, Kerwin Miller, and Don Steel** at the USNA Club after Bill's internment at the Columbarium. **Rich Hoke** was also at the service at the Chapel but had to fly out immediately afterward. Thanks to Don Steel for the report.



<photo 75#1: "Classmates gather with Janice Ferris to celebrate Bill's life">

The USNA Board of Trustees met in December. Several classmates serve our alma mater in leadership roles. Thanks for your time and dedication **Steve Hall, Bill Squires, Alex Plechash, and Craig Quigley.**

<photo 75#2: "December 2018 Board of Trustees meeting">

**Gary Miller** celebrated 50 years of track, road, and trail running and racing with a gold (800m) and a silver (1500m) at the Florida Senior Games (held annually in



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December). This was Gary's sixth consecutive gold at 800m. He wishes that he had figured out that it was his best event during the years he focused on the marathon. He could have saved a lot of money on shoes! The icing on the cake is that Gary's time met the Masters All American standard for 800m—which he had been chasing for years (previously missed by 0.6 seconds at the National Games in 2013). Patience is indeed a virtue.

Gary's message for all, "We should pursue our passions regardless of our age. Don't let others tell us and don't tell ourselves we are too old, don't have the time, talent or any one of a million other excuses not to do things we really want to. Our mantra should always be "I can do that." And we can pursue our dreams successfully without being pollyannish about it. Even if we find we don't have the ability to succeed on the level we ideally want, we can still experience a substantial percentage of the satisfaction and enjoyment those at the very top feel when engaging in the activity. I understand completely that I am not Usain Bolt or Stevie Ray Vaughan. But when I step onto the track or plug in my guitar, I can tap into and share a lot of the same energy that fueled their success in their respective endeavors. Always better to have a some ice cream than none at all. I still enjoy the challenge and will continue to compete as long as the tires hold up."

<photo 75#3: "At the Florida Senior Games">

A great note from VP **Gary Jones**.

"I had the chance to celebrate the Holiday Season with several Classmates at **Mark Klett's** annual Company Christmas Party in Virginia Beach. As most know, Mark is President/CEO of Klett Consulting Group (KCG), and it was a great year for his company. KCG has 50+ employees, and conducts business in the cybersecurity, enterprise architecture, and systems engineering industry. **Bill McGlooin** and I actually support KCG in various roles (part of Mark's "Hire a Classmate" Program). I stepped away/retired from my work at Alion Science & Technology in 2016. That attempt at retirement lasted all of six months before Mark persuaded me to join him at KCG.

My commute to KCG has gotten a quite a bit longer as Tammy and I moved from Virginia Beach to Charlottesville, VA this past August. We were familiar with the area as our youngest graduated from UVa. We love the Blue Ridge Mountains and surrounding area. When I retired from active duty in late 2009, I immediately joined Alion and we relocated to VA Beach. The 8+ years we lived there was the longest we ever lived in one location in 32 years of marriage...so we did feel a slight itch to move. We became grandparents this year, so we needed a bigger house for all the toys Tammy anticipates we'll need.

Craig Quigley is Executive Director of Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance (HRMFFA) — doing great things to ensure that Hampton Roads attracts, retains and grows military and federal facilities across the Region. As I mentioned, Bill and I support Mark at KCG, with Bill doing great things for Mark at USFFC, while I help Mark with strategic planning and business development. Both Bill and I agree it is a pleasure and joy to work for a boss you respect, trust and have known for 45+ years. (Plus, he puts on a GREAT CHRISTMAS PARTY!!)

We were in San Diego in early December which gave Tammy and me the chance to visit with Jane and **Rob Reed**. Rob recently retired from flying for Delta Airlines, and he and Jane were preparing

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for a Christmas cruise to South America that included time in the Antarctic—a real White Christmas!”

<Photo 75#4: “Quigley, McGloon, Klett and Jones. Craig did not get the memo about wearing a red sweater to the party, albeit his tie was rather festive.”>

Treasurer Dave Duffie checked in with an Army-Navy photo from the party at Shorebreak Pizza in Virginia Beach. **Aaron “AB” Johnson** is in the pic with Duff. **John Galle** also suffered through the game at Shorebreak. **John Kittler** drove over from Panama City to join the Pensacola crowd at Miller’s Ale House.



<Photo 75#5: “Army watch party—VA Beach”>  
<Photo 75#6: “Army watch party—Pensacola”>

We will wrap up this column with some 10th Company news courtesy of John Kittler. Kristi and **Bob Burns** spent Christmas week in Annapolis with their boys. Bob says the Christmas Eve midnight service at the chapel was terrific. Dee and **Charles Hargrove** are looking forward to continued health and a happy new year in the Orlando area. Charles is the Assistant DA for Volusia County, Florida. **Dave Sheperd** has moved to Buffalo and is in the middle of his first winter there. Kitts is running a 10<sup>th</sup> Company betting pool on how many Bufflalo



winters before he moves to Florida! Rosann and **Mike Lilek** have been hiking through Spain. Jeanette and **Dick Arnold** toured Egypt this fall. In addition to the Pyramids of Giza and the Great Sphinx, they visited the Egyptian museum, the ancient capital of Memphis, the Alabaster Mosque, and Saggara in the Sahara Desert. After a flight to Luxor they boarded their Nile River cruise ship and sailed up and down the Nile, visiting many temples dedicated to the Ancient Egyptian Gods, three tombs in the Valley of the Kings, and the Aswan Dam. **Chris McCarthy** has relocated his architectural firm to Charleston, SC. He is working with other companies to restore communities after storm damage. If you have a project in mind, or some restoration / renovation, give your classmate a call! ’75 Sir! Larry

