



# **Richard Heckhaus, LT USN, RET**

MAY 29, 1934 - APR 8, 2013



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## **Richard Heckhaus, LT USN, RET**

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**R**ichard Heckhaus, LT USN, RET, 78, passed away peacefully in his home in Annapolis, on April 8, 2013.

Rich was born May 29, 1934 in Astoria, N.Y. the middle son of Philip L. Heckhaus and the former Mary O'Dea. He was raised in Bayside, N.Y. and was a graduate of Brooklyn Technical High School.

Entering active duty in February 1957, he attended school at Imperial Beach, CA, returning to New York briefly to marry the former Virginia Thompson on May 25, 1957. The following 21 years were filled with fun and adventure as they traveled to Germany, Maine, the Philippines, Japan, Hawaii and Maryland, back to Hawaii, then Guam; finally settling in Rockville, MD. While on active duty he received bachelor and master degrees in administration. He retired from the Navy in 1978.

In civilian life Rich worked for Vitro Corp., TRACOR Applied Sciences, Bechtel, and then fulfilled a dream of owning his own business, "Rich's Home Improvement." In 2001 they retired to Annapolis, and spent twelve wonderful years.

Rich loved boating and The Bay and was a Life Member of the United States Power Squadron with 27 Merit Marks. He was Commander of the Potomac River Power Squadron from 1986-87 and in 1989 won the Potomac N Club Navigation Championship, the last winner of record for this award. In 2000-2001 he was Commodore of the Chesapeake Cruiser Association. As a member of the Naval Cryptologic Veterans Association since 1981, he had missed only a few of the annual reunions and always looked forward to seeing old friends and swapping "sea stories." Shortly after moving to Annapolis, he became very active in the volunteer efforts and social activities of our warm and friendly community.

Rich is survived by Virginia, his wife of 55 years; their five children, Richard (Melanie) Germantown, MD, Mark (Mary) Germantown, MD, Jean Heckhaus, Pasadena, MD, Christine



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(Mike), Rockville, MD, and Paul (Amy), Halethorpe, MD and 11 grandchildren; Jesse and Ryan Heckhaus, Mickey, Amy, and Christopher Heckhaus, T.J. and Andrew Schultz, Mark and Paige Henry, and Gwen and Ana Heckhaus. He is also survived by his brothers, Philip of New Bern, NC and Donald of Phoenix, AZ, his mother-in-law, Norma Thompson of Annapolis, nieces and nephews and a multitude of friends both near and far.

A memorial service will be held on Wed. April 17, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at St. John Neumann Catholic Church at 620 Bestgate Road in Annapolis.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to: Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, 1500 Rosecrans Ave. Suite 200, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266, Toll Free 877/272-6226, [www.pancan.org/section\\_donate/donate\\_now.php#](http://www.pancan.org/section_donate/donate_now.php#)





## Events


**Richard Heckhaus, LT USN, RET**

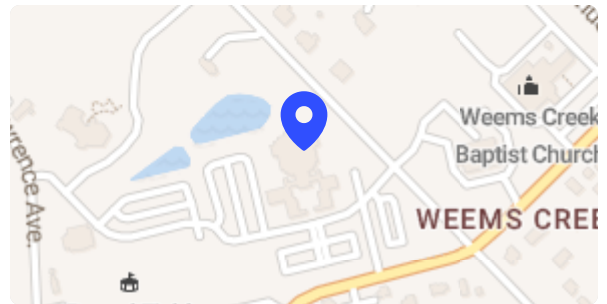
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### Service

 **Wednesday**, April 17, 2013

 9:00 AM ET

 **St. John Neumann Catholic Church**  
620 N. Bestgate Road, Annapolis MD





# Tribute Wall

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**Pam Ames** posted:

Dear Ginny and family, Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. Fond memories of times with you and Rich. Love and God Bless you and your family, Pam, Dick Ames and family

April 19 at 2:41 PM



**Mary Roberts** lit a candle in honor of Richard.

My deepest condolences to the entire Heckhaus family for the loss of their beloved Dad, Mr. Heckhaus. Memories of such a happy family and man fill my mind and heart and takes me back to our wonderful life on our wonderful island of Guam. May God bless all of you today and always, you will remain forever in my prayers. Rest in Peace Mr. Heckhaus. Mary Kirkendal Roberts



April 18 at 8:52 PM



**Amanda Wilson** April 19 at 4:04 AM

Mary clair - would love to hear from you - Think of you often



**Shirley Yvonne** posted:

To The Family Of Richard Heckhaus: I read with sorrow of the loss of Richard. Please know you have my deepest condolences. May God comfort you during this difficult time. Please remember death is not the end. Almighty God has given his son, Christ Jesus, and through him we have the promise that our loved ones will be brought back to life in the resurrection. Although this promise does not completely take away the pain of missing Richard, I pray that it brings you peace and strengthens your faith. Galatians 1:3, John 5: 21, 28, 29, Psalms 83:18. Heartfelt prayers are with your family. Shirley Yvonne

April 17 at 12:36 AM



**Jean Heckhaus** shared an album called **Family Pictures**.



April 15 at 6:46 AM



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**Amanda Wilson** posted:

My heart goes out to Mrs. Ginny, Rick, Mark, Jean, Chris and Paul. It has been many years since Guam, but I think of you all often. I hope God will give you all a great Peace. I know Mr. Rich is smiling down on you. God Bless Mandy NeSmith Wilson

April 14 at 3:29 PM



**Cyndy Davis** posted:

Paul and I were lucky enough to have known Rich and Ginny over the past 9 years and fortunate enough to have shared in the celebration of their 50th...truly a joyous and blessed occasion. Rich was an invaluable member of the Severn House family....as a Board member, a "keeper" of the health of our buildings and a valued friend to all of us who live here. The beautiful relationship he shared with Ginny was an inspiration. He and Paul shared their memories of Guam and although there at different times could swap stories of the people and places they experienced. His friendly approach to life and his willingness to see the positive in situations spoke to the strength of the man and his love for his family was evident in all he did., He will be sorely missed and well remembered.....Paul and Cyndy

April 14 at 6:53 AM



**Lizbeth Azanon-Roop** lit a candle in honor of Richard.

Rest In Peace Mr. Heckhaus, I will always have such wonderful memories of you. You were always so kind to me and always made me smile. I will always remember the times you let me spend time on the boat with you and the family. It was so much fun to be around the Heckhaus clan. I will miss you dearly. Mrs. Heckhaus and family, I'm so very sorry for your loss. My deepest sympathies and Love go out to you.



April 14 at 6:50 AM



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**Stacey** lit a candle in honor of Richard.

I have great memories of days spent out on the boat, trying to waterski and BBQs after. I remember staying over so many times and having so much fun. Magellan Avenue was always my safe landing place to stay when I thought I could make it through an overnight visit with my Baltimore aunt and couldn't. I will miss my Uncle Richie. RIP.



April 13 at 1:18 PM



**Jim & Ruth Day** April 15 at 1:54 PM

When I think of Rich I remember his big smile. He was so pleasant and wonderful to chat with about many things. Ginny you were so blessed to have this gentlemen in your life for so many years. These difficult times I hope will soon fade into warm memories that wipe away your tears. He is at rest now with the Lord and when you look toward the stars there will be one very special star that perhaps is Rich smiling down on you. Our sympathy's to you, your family, and many friends. Ruth & Jim Day



**Mary Heckhaus** posted:

I will miss my father in law. He was also so welcoming and fun to be around. I never felt anything but love and acceptance from Rich. Our family will miss his wit and his jokes. My children are so lucky to have had such a wonderful grandfather. Gramps always had them laughing. We were all better people for knowing him. Mary Heckhaus

April 13 at 1:10 PM



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MJ

**Melissa And John** lit a candle in honor of Richard.



April 12 at 12:43 PM

BF

**Bernie & Jean-Marie Ferrara** April 12 at 5:20 PM

I will always cherish the memories of our days as young sailors when we started our families together in Bremerhaven, Germany. Our paths crossed many more times over the years in the Navy and each memory will stay with me forever. When last we met in Tucson, Arizona at the NCVA reunion, little did I realize it would be our last time together. Where ever you are shipmate may you have fair winds and following seas. Until we meet again in Fiddler's Green for another beer. Ginny our sincerest condolences and love. Bernie & Jean-Marie Ferrara

MJ

**Melissa And John** April 12 at 12:46 PM

We will miss Rich. Our heartfelt condolences to Ginny and family. No doubt this is a great loss to all who knew and loved him.

BM

**Bo Murphy** posted:

Mrs Heckhaus and family; I'm so sorry to hear about your loss. Having just seen Rich and many of you at my dad's service in January makes it especially poignant for me. Looking back, I recall how cheerful he was whenever our families were together. Also, I'm remembering the bond of Navy service dad & Rich shared, along with travel to similar overseas stations. My deepest sympathies - Bo

April 12 at 4:19 AM



## Media

**Richard Heckhaus, LT USN, RET**

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Jean Heckhaus shared a photo to the **Family Pictures** album.

April 15 at 6:46 AM



Taken Jan. 5, 2013 @ Paul's Birthday Luncheon



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Richard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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