



Captain Ewing Raiford "Mickey" McDonald, Jr, USN, Ret.

AUG 17, 1925 - AUG 16, 2017



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Captain Ewing Raiford "Mickey" McDonald, Jr, USN, Ret.

AUG 17, 1925 - AUG 16, 2017

Captain Ewing Raiford "Mickey" McDonald, Jr, USN, Ret. set sail on his final voyage August 16th, 2017. His family celebrated his 92nd birthday the next day. On the pier, waving "Cheerio" for the last time was his beloved wife, Madelon, the woman who held his eye for nearly seventy years.

Mickey arrived in Annapolis as V-J Day was celebrated in August 1945. He had come north with an appointment from his Shreveport, Louisiana congressman, an achievement of which his mother, Lillian Ross McDonald, was justifiably proud. He was unwaveringly grateful to be a member of the United States Naval Academy Class of 1949. He served his nation honorably aboard destroyers and submarines and in theater during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. He commanded USS SENNET (SS-408) and inspired two generations of McDonalds to continue his legacy as USNA graduates, including aboard submarines. He loved every member of his family absolutely and unconditionally. He inspired them, no matter their vocation or calling in life, to do their best, be their best, and to make the world a better place. He always did for others - his family, his friends, his neighbors, his sailors, his classmates, his community - before he did for himself. Everyone who knew him knew that Mickey would bring peace, comfort and wisdom to any situation.

For the last twenty years, each day as he shaved, Mickey happily reflected on the words of Admiral Arleigh Burke that he had hung by his mirror:

"Life has been good to me. I didn't die young and I wasn't killed in the war. I got to do most everything I wanted to and a few things I didn't. I had a job I liked and a woman I loved. Can't ask for much more than that."

Mickey was surrounded by family when he died at home. In addition to his wife, Madelon, his loving family includes: his three children, Devon Clouse and husband Paul; Brad McDonald and wife Kim; and Sheila McDonald and husband Bennett Finney; his six adoring grandchildren,



Obituary

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LCDR Tyler McDonald, USN, and wife Mary; Holly Clouse Coutoumas and husband Captain John Coutoumas, USMC; Mallory Gill; Luke McDonald and wife Rose; Lt. Austin Clouse, USN; and Natalie Gill. Late in life and to his joy, he welcomed four McDonald great-grandchildren – Ava, Colin, Bailey, and to the full completion of the circle of life, his namesake, Ewing Timothy McDonald. Born this year, the younger Ewing visited twice in the last week of his Great-Gran's life, visits which brought Mickey great joy. Important to Mickey in his last years was the opportunity to develop a warm relationship with a younger brother, Carl McDonald of Maryville Tennessee, and learn about their father, Ewing Raiford McDonald, Sr.

Fair Winds and Following Seas to our beloved Skipper, Husband, Dad, Gran, and Friend to all.

All are invited to a Memorial Service to be held at Lasting Tributes at 814 Bestgate Road, Annapolis, Maryland at 3:00PM on Friday August 25, 2017 with fellowship to follow until 5:00PM.

The family is forever grateful for all the wonderful help we received in the last weeks from Hospice of the Chesapeake, BrightStar Care, and True Companion Care. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of the Chesapeake, 90 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena, MD 21122.



Events


Captain Ewing Raiford "Mickey" McDonald, Jr, USN, Ret.

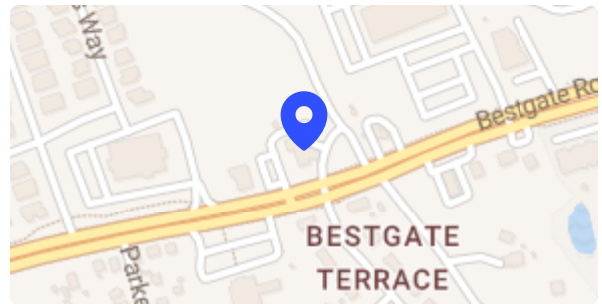
AUG 17, 1925 - AUG 16, 2017

Memorial Service

 Friday, August 25, 2017

 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM ET


 **Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care**
814 Bestgate Rd, Annapolis MD 21401

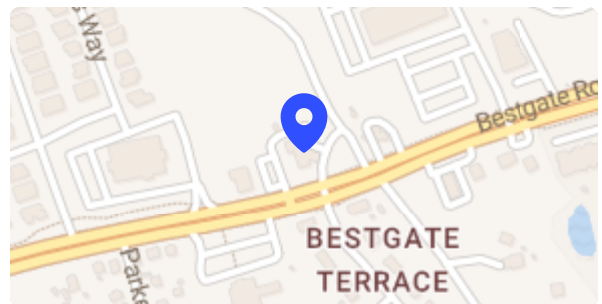


Fellowship

 Friday, August 25, 2017

 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM ET

 **Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care**
814 Bestgate Rd, Annapolis MD 21401





Tribute Wall

Captain Ewing Raiford "Mickey" McDonald, Jr, USN, Ret.

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WH

Warren B. Howe, Md posted:

Knowing and serving with "THE XO" on the USS Simon Lake was a significant highlight of my brief naval career and, actually, of my entire life. A truly fine and inspirational officer, Mickey was a wonderful man in all respects and I was most privileged to know him. What a wonderful legacy he leaves in his children! My sympathies to Madelon: they were a truly special couple. Every once in a while I run across the pictures of their farewell party in Dunoon and still laugh myself silly over them. Godspeed Captain McDonald, and blessing on your family. Warren B. Howe, MDBellingham, WA

December 29 at 6:53 PM

YG

Yncs(Ss) Ret. Jesse A. Graham sent a Beautiful in Blue to the McDonald, Jr, USN, Ret. family.



August 25 at 7:01 AM

KH

Kay And Tom Huggard posted:

We were immensely privileged to be "back-alley" neighbors to Mickey and Madelon and family in the 1970s. They had teenagers and we had newborns - they were the best example of marriage and parenting that we could have ever hoped for! What an incredible legacy of service to country and dedication to community and family! Our love to Madelon, Devon, Brad, Sheila and their families, Kay and Tom Huggard

August 24 at 8:40 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the McDonald, Jr, USN, Ret. family.



August 24 at 6:01 AM



Tribute Wall

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Carol Gibson lit a candle in honor of Captain Ewing.

We had the pleasure of spending time with Mickey and his lovely family these last few months. It was a privilege to see and hear the love and pride he had for his family and to witness that love returned... for this remarkable man. Being in Mickey's company made you feel, like you were in the presence of someone special - a "Gentle Giant" His kindness, intellect and humor were always present, even when he clearly was not feeling his best. We loved hearing some of the remarkable stories of his life. Of the Greatest Generation to be sure. We hope Madelon and the McDonald family find comfort in their shared memories. Rest in peace dear man, it was an honor to know you. Sincerely, Carol Gibson & staff True Companion Care



August 23 at 10:05 AM



Bill posted:

To the McDonald Family, We are so sad to learn that Mickey has passed away. We enjoyed meeting him at the home of Devon and Paul. He certainly lived an extraordinary life of service to his family and our country. I particularly enjoyed visiting with him and hearing his reminiscences about his early career in submarines and some of the officers we knew in common. He was a role model for each of us and we will miss him. We are so sorry for the entire McDonald family. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with each of you. With our love and deepest sympathy, Bill and Sally Garrett

August 23 at 8:41 AM



Anonymous sent a With Distinction to the McDonald, Jr, USN, Ret. family.



August 23 at 6:16 AM



Steve Foss posted:

I fondly remember playing golf with Mr. McDonald... he wore me out... we walked the entire 18 holes! Very pleasant round of golf!

August 21 at 3:37 PM



Anonymous sent a Gracious Lavender Basket to the McDonald, Jr, USN, Ret. family.



August 21 at 12:14 PM



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JB

John Bird posted:

Captain McDonald was a superb naval officer and a very good man; exceptional father, husband, and friend. He was wonderful in all that mattered. I had the great fortune to meet Captain McDonald as a young Midshipman at the Naval Academy, maintaining a friendship with him over the next 40 plus years. He was a very special man who exhibited the finest characteristics of a gentleman and Naval officer. As a plebe we learned of John Paul Jones' famous letter on the "Qualifications of a Naval Officer". Captain McDonald embodied and lived by those words: "It is by no means enough that an officer of the Navy should be a capable mariner. He must be that, of course, but also a great deal more. He should be as well a gentleman of liberal education, refined manners, punctilious courtesy, and the nicest sends of personal honor. He should be the soul of tact, patience, justice and charity..."He was all that and more. Captain McDonald was a kind man that made you feel special and very good about yourself. Always positive, pleasant and upbeat, he had nothing but nice words for, and about, everyone. He was thoughtful in his advice and generous in his time. I am a better man for knowing him and the world is a better place because of the life he lived. We will miss him and cherish his legacy of a great family and many dear friends. John Bird

August 21 at 4:14 AM

JC

Jennifer Clouse lit a candle in honor of Captain Ewing.

The first time I met Gran he gave me a big hug and told me what a good girl he thought I was. He made me feel so welcome. I know Patrick has always thought so fondly of him and Wyatt and Mickey share a birthday. (We've always thought that to be special). Unfortunately, we haven't been up to Maryland for quite some time, but when we last saw Gran he gave us all hugs and said, "I love you kids: I love all my kids". Our hearts go out to you all. We wish we could be there to say goodbye. We send our love. Patrick, Jen, & Wyatt Clouse



August 20 at 6:46 PM

TF

The Robey Family posted:

A life well lived, serving our country and community and raising a family of fine people who continue to make our world a better place. He will be missed by so many. Our deepest condolences to you all.

August 20 at 4:14 AM



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Lisa Daywalt shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Madelon & Family, Our prayers are with you always. I just remember how much Mickey and I laughed at AAMC both while volunteering at Joint & Spine and at the Information Desk. He was just a bit saltier than I. Old Navy stories and tales, some of them true (wink, wink) always kept us giggling. While he was always a gentleman, he kept up appearances and was the sharpest dressed volunteer ever, always donning his bow ties and on holidays often wearing bunny ears and santa hats. I will truly miss my salty, but sweet friend. Find peace in all of the great memories made throughout your lives as these will keep Mickey close in your hearts forever. Love & Hugs, Lisa (Mecca) & Charlie Daywalt



August 17 at 4:42 PM



Media

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August 17 at 4:42 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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