

Christopher (14); mother, Fran; sister, Kim; and countless friends.

This is without a doubt the toughest thing I have ever written. I laughed and I cried but at last I have come to accept what up until now has been nothing more than a bad dream. I personally have been blessed for having had the opportunity to know Kerry and for having shared many years of friendship. God bless those whose lives he has touched.

The second item is from **Dan Sayner** (lizdan@gte.net), who has come up with a great way to remember Kerry:

First time writing to the column and sadly it is to request donations for a tribute to our Classmate, Kerry Knoizen, who passed away suddenly in July. Kerry was the captain of the 1977 men's heavy-weight crew team and a dedicated leader in the Brigade of Midshipman during his senior year. I have contacted **Rusty Yeiser '74**, major gift officer, U.S. Naval Academy Foundation, to find a way to remember Kerry for his contributions to the USNA, with the goal of dedicating a crew racing shell after him.

Therefore, I would like to ask the members of the Class to consider sending a donation made to the "U.S. Naval Academy Foundation" with a note on the memo line of your check for the "Knoizen/Navy Crew Endowment Fund." Checks should be mailed to: USNA Foundation, P.O. Box 64978, Baltimore, MD 21264-4978. This is the Foundation's lockbox account and will ensure that donors receive a receipt from the Foundation for tax purposes.

I thank you for your support of our Classmate.

I know that Kerry will always hold a special place in the hearts of those of us who knew him, and I trust that we will continue to keep Betsy and her family in our prayers.

Class Communication

Tom "Soup" Campbell (Tom.Campbell@longandfoster.com) is already working hard to get things together for our 25th Reunion, which is right around the corner (for those of you who don't yet know, it's scheduled for the weekend of 21 September 2002). Tom has touched base with the two hotels that we plan to use, and we seem to have enough rooms available for the 19th, 20th, and 21st. He also spoke with the Marriott and has made a reservation for our dinner dance on Friday the 20th. Tom plans to meet with the catering director over the next several months to make preliminary plans, and will be soliciting ideas from all of us very soon. He's already looking for Class input for several aspects of the Friday night dinner dance, including a theme, the music (band or DJ), the menu, possible door prizes, etc. On a final reunion note (for now anyway), Tom is looking for an email address or phone number for **Joe Walsh** (his wife, Cindy, was handling the plans for the Saturday tailgate party and he's lost touch with her). Anyone that has any input for the weekend or would like to volun-

teer to help Soup in any way, don't be shy and drop him a line.

Henry Brus (Brus@jsc.mil) has been burning up the Internet lately gathering and distributing email addresses of about 200 Classmates in various locations. If you'd like to get a copy of the spreadsheet of email addresses that he's created, please feel free to contact Henry directly. A few of the updated email addresses that Henry provided to me are: **Pierre Thuot** (thuot@erols.com) from 11th Company; **Rich Faulkner** (richard.faulkner@lmco.com) from 7th Company; **John Madaio** (jmadaio@yahoo.com) from 14th Company (whose work number is 301-227-3762); **Pete Green** (pgreen@paxr.veridian.com) from 17th Company; **Dave Aland** (aland.david@hq.navy.mil or benzgrafix@aol.com) from 25th Company; **Bill Frost** (wmdfrostii@earthlink.net) from 6th Company; **Mike Thorp** (thorpfam@erols.net) also from 6th Company, whose address and phone number are 4323 Flint Hill Drive, Apt. 304, Owings Mills, MD 21117; 410-581-1105; and **John Thorp** (john.thorp@ccnppi.com) from 8th Company.

Stratton Hicky (Stratton.Hicky-contractor@bmdo.osd.mil) also informed Henry that **Paul Croisetiére** (CroisetiéreP@ndu.edu or CroisetiéreP@earthlink.net) is building an email address listing for 35th Company and provided him with the following email address updates: **LaSalle Booker** (beaugarde@worldnet.att.net) who lives in Arlington, VA; **Guy Cofield** (cofieldg@series2000.com) who lives in Virginia Beach, VA; **Tom McIlravy** (mcilravy@picusnet.com) who also lives in Virginia Beach, VA; **Tom McKee** (tmckee@combinednow.com) who lives in Marriottsville, MD; **Scott Murphy** (scott_f_@mobil.com) who lives in Fairfax, VA; and **Dave Pyle** (davepyle@shore.intercom.net) who lives in Stevensville, MD. **Rich Gooner** (goonerr@mindspring.com) reported that he moved to the University of Alabama in August, so you might be able to catch him at rgooner@cba.ua.edu as well.

Henry also received the following excerpts from Classmates on their current state of affairs. **Robert Nichols** (Bribo5@aol.com or Robert.Nichols@faa.gov) works in Washington, DC, at the FAA on the Safe Flight 21 Program. His address and phone number are 447 Gainsborough Court, Severna Park, MD 21146; 410-544-2740 (h); 202-267-9912 (w). Bob mentioned that he recently had lunch with **Bill Chatman** whose work number is 202-414-8601. **Larry Laughlin** (Lklaughlin@aol.com) retired last August as a Supply Corps TAR officer. He took a job as a high school naval science instructor in Aiken, SC, where he lives with his wife, Kim (who married him at the Naval Academy Chapel in May 1982), and their four children: two boys (ages 6 and 16) and two girls (ages 12 and 13). Larry says the four of them keep him and Kim busy these days shuttling from one activity to the next, but now that the oldest has a license, he's glad to have a helper! **Gordy "Mac" McElroy** (mcelroy@rlmsystems.com.au or mcelroy@connect.net.au) from 13th Company informed Henry that he is a vice president at Lockheed Martin in Australia and is serving as the JORN project director. He can be reached at 61-3-9259-3539 (w) or 61-3-9846-8228 (h). **Pete Knoetgen** (pmknoet@mindspring.com or knoetgenpm@inpo.org) from 13th Company is a captain in the Naval Reserve and works for the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations in Atlanta. I'm sure you now have some appreciation for the volume of emails that Henry's been pouring through! I received word through the grapevine that **Terry Amyx** (amyx_terry@bah.com) is trying to find

Chris O'Connor from 10th Company. If anyone knows his whereabouts, please contact Terry.

Closing Remarks

As I wrap up another month of Class news, I look forward to relaxing a little over the coming holidays (things have been rather chaotic in the Sanderson household lately for both me and Michelle). For those of you who haven't heard, I started a new job in September 2000 with Aether Systems, Inc., a rapidly growing wireless technology firm in the Baltimore, MD, area, and Michelle enrolled in the master's of theological studies program at the Virginia Theological Seminary, in Alexandria, VA. Needless to say, with full-time jobs, long hours, and lengthy commutes, time is at a premium for both of us, and we really appreciate those relaxing moments together when we can find them. Annapolis is still a great place to live, and we continue to enjoy our time here (we just need to find a way to work here, too). By the way, for *anyone* attending Navy basketball games this season, look for us about five rows behind the Navy bench, anticipating the next opportunity to *Beat Army!*—

Bob Sanderson

78

Annual Membership: 18%
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Pres: **Arch Griffin**

Sec'y: **Vince Balderrama**

45 Little Fawn Drive, Shelton, CT 06484

e: VBalderrama@Sikorsky.com

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As I write this I've got a short stack of mail. I guess everyone must have been gearing up to write those lengthy Christmas newsletters that always seem to accompany the cards. If you are like me, you really put a lot of effort into them so you can get them out by July of the next year (if at all). I still have a stack of '99 Balderrama family newsletters. They make great kindling! I'm sure next month's column will be jam-packed. I guess I can expect the mailman anytime soon to start bringing in bundles of cards, newsletters and family photos...Yup, anytime soon. Okay, I'm waiting...Anytime soon now...Man I feel like Charlie Brown at Valentine's Day—with my snout in the mailbox...waiting. Hey, speaking of family photos, *Shipmate* now accepts digital photos. That's right, we have entered the new age! Of course they have a lot of that pixilated, bitty, bitey requirements stuff like: grayscale (black and white) if possible, 300 dpi, TIFF or JPEG format. Also keep in mind that you are dealing with a zero and O-challenged Marine here so keep it easy and simple...pahleeez! (I still can't unzip that file from **George Tyree**. I'm still working on it, George. I'm just building up the excitement—like in those movie trailers at the theater.) Well, on to the mail.

Mike Patton (PattonMG@navsea.navy.mil) dropped a quick email to say that our own CAPT **Steven W. Petri** relieved CAPT **John H. Preisel '72** as commander of NavSea's Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division (NSWCCD). Steve came from NavSea where he guided development of the Navy's next attack submarine, VIRGINIA-class. Dr. CAPT Steve (he has his Ph.D.) had been with Carderock once before back in the nineties when he was officer-in-charge of Carderock's Acoustic Research Detachment in Bayview, ID. As for Mike,

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he still works on the Navy's Virginia (New Attack) submarine program with NavSea, specifically the Electronic Support System (AN/BLQ-10).

In some old mail, **Alex Callas** wrote that the Ninth Annual Peter G. Callas Memorial Golf Day for MDA was a complete success. He again attributed the success to the wonderful help and participation of Classmates and grads. He sent everyone his deep gratitude. Among the participants in this year's tournament were: Kevin Lynch, Bob Schmermund, John Cranford, Ron McNeal, Ed Reid, Byron Marchant, Scott Eckert, Pierre Thuot '77, Cozy Bailey '75, and Ed Gilmore '75. There were also many donors and sponsors. Besides some of the guys previously mentioned, the contributors included **Chris Davidson, Larry Olsen, Ray Luevano, John Rudder, John Kurowski, Don Hamblen and Rich Hagen '82**. The tournament is a mini-reunion of sorts and grows each year. For some it is also a lucrative reunion as a few dollars were seen exchanging hands at the 19th hole! To date, your generosity and involvement—and Alex's untiring devotion and love—has raised over \$135,000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The Tenth Annual Golf Day is scheduled for 20 June 2001; planning is underway so mark your calendars! Alex says that "special things are planned for the Tenth and all are welcomed!"

I saw Navy brutalized at Boston College. **Steve "Jock" Maloney** and I rendezvoused with the usual suspects—**Kevin Lynch, Bob Schmermund, and Ed Reid**, joined by **John Young** and his brother. You've read about the first three quite a bit lately. As for John, he's no longer with Southern Companies but is a hot prospect for a lot of other big companies looking for a big time exec. Supposedly, he's got as much attention from just those kinds of companies as a you-know-what on a sailor pay day. Rumor control has it that he will no longer be our last bachelor (I think an original bachelor at that!). During the halftime break Jock and I ran into **Brian Kirk**. Brian works as the senior sales manager for SSH Communications Security, Inc. out of Hingham, MA. By the end of the game we all found ourselves cheering for the moral victory of *not* giving up 50 points. Through one of his many connections Jock got us great seats—right in the heart of the enemy (the BC side), 50-yard line, 11th row. They were so good that even New Jersey Governor, Christine Todd Whitman had to sit by us. That's no sea story. She actually sat behind us. Of course the people accompanying her didn't know squat about football, which annoys true fans like me. I had to clarify a few of the finer points—like it was a *protective pad* the receiver was wearing, not a fanny pack. Heck, if we'd have stayed any longer I could've worked on her budget and tax issues. Instead we left in the 4th quarter to join **John Kovalcik** and his family and friends in their sky box just behind us. Once more, John has shown us lowly mortals that the only way to see a game is

from a sky box—you have the field, the TV too, a cooler full of beer, hot and cold food and when needed, heat or air conditioning. I've been spoiled again—great seats, great sky box, and great friends—what a way to see a game!

I talked to **Steve Sutton** recently. He still works on the Hill as the Chief of Staff for Congressman Lee Terry from Nebraska. This is the fourth member of Congress for whom he has worked. This one he says is a "keeper." He's up for re-election this year, with a pretty solid chance of making it so it looks like Steve could be right. Steve and I were scratching our heads to think of whom else from '78 also works as a Congressional staffer. I thought there might be one more of us running around there. Until I hear otherwise I'll just keep guessing. Steve and his wife now have three kids—all preschoolers—Eliana (5), Jeneline (2) and the newest, Gabriel (8 months). Steve was among those who played in Alex Callas' golf day. In fact, his team (foursome, double—whatever you golfers call it!) wound up in second place for B Group. Speaking of golf and small worlds. Steve was out abusing the Pohick Golf Course one weekend when he came across a man and a young boy. To make a long story short, they got to talking and one thing led to another. Steve discovered that the man was a real good friend with someone who also went to Navy. In fact, the young boy was this friend's son. Through many variations of the name game we think it might have been our own Dr. **Richard Boehme**. Of course, we could be wrong, but it's a good story nonetheless.

I gather that many of you are starting to feel the approach of our 25th and are responding to all our pleas to update your information on the Class Web site. Keep it up and pass the word. There are still a lot of folks who don't get *Shipmate*; either because they aren't members of the Alumni Association, or have forgotten to update their address with the Alumni Association. So you need to tell Classmates you come across to take that action. If they are in the former category, have them join up. If they fall into the latter category it's easy to update the Alumni Association. Just go online (the Web site is www.usna.com). If you forget, the address is also in *Shipmate*). You can also call Alumni House at 410-263-4448 ext. 148 and let them know to where you've moved.

Prompted by seeing **Dave Brown's** name in this column **Brett Ayotte**, (bayotte@mdmcorp.com) sent an email on other Classmates in Palm Harbor, FL, area. Besides Dave and Brett, who's been there since 1983, there is also **Bill Larimore**. In fact, Brett and Bill's 14-year-old daughters had become friends at one of the math magnet schools long before the two dads recognized the Class tie. That's understandable when you figure more than 960 of us graduated. Besides, even more understandably, Bill was 1st Regiment while Brett was an "other side of the worlder" in 2nd Regiment (I too was a 1st Regimenter). Brett heard that **Joel Boland** is at USSoCom over in Tampa but hasn't tracked him down yet. Within the Reserve Submarine Force, '78ers are wielding a lot of influence and control. **Mike Yurina, Martin Bushika**, and Brett are all COs of SubLant Reserve units and **Jay DeLoach** is the Submarine Reserve Force COS. Lots of other Reserve COs in our ranks too—**Tim Arcano, Mark Munson**, etc.

Lloyd Prince (Lprince@aol.com) and **Carl Jordan** are proof that there is life after retirement. They are both captains flying for AirTran Airways. Lloyd mentioned that there were "others" and that we can be expecting some news on them later.



Captains Lloyd and Carl

Jeff Fowler (fowlerjl@stratcom.mil) sent an "Aloha" from the Heartland of America—Nebraska. The Fowlers are getting pretty settled-in after their move from Hawaii. So far the weather had been mild, so the transition has been good. They are renting a much larger house than their grass shack in Aiea, and the kids enjoy the neighborhood filled with kids their age. School and gymnastics are going well for the girls, and after his first rodeo, Connor was prepared to be that cowboy for this past Halloween. Katie has a four-wheel drive Dodge Durango and is ready for the Nebraska winters. She has started substitute teaching, so everyone is keeping busy.

Rich Polek (Richpolek@aol.com) wrote that on Sunday, 19 November 2000, at 8:08 a.m., Jennifer delivered into the world, Cole Quinn Polek. He weighed in at six pounds, ten ounces. So far Cole's older sister, Nadilee, is playing the role of a mostly disinterested big sister. She is busy chasing and hugging her boyfriend, Matt James (**Brian James'** son). Of course that may change later. I remember my older siblings "hugging" me until I was blue in the face. While in the "holding pattern" for Cole, Rich was precluded from a couple of mini-reunion attempts with **Ray Luevano** (rluevano@mirapoint.com). Ray had come to Richmond a few weeks before the birth for some business with Cisco but hadn't been able to link up with Rich. Then again as Cole's arrival date drew nearer Ray planned to be in the Annapolis area. He had hoped to have Rich join him at dinner with **Doc Hasson**, our famous bicycle-riding, scraggly-bearded, cigar-smoking material science prof from our Midshipman days. Those of you who had him for Class (I was not among the privileged) be advised that Doc Hasson will be retiring at the end of this academic year. His class must have left an impression with Ray such that he either intended to talk over old times or in light of present precedence thought he could still try to turn-over a midterm exam grad. "But Doc if you follow the dimples, you'll see I really intended to punch only the *correct* answers. Multiple dimples on the same answer doesn't mean I didn't have a clue to the answer it was a flaw in the system. Of course who would intend to mark an incorrect answer?! Come on, I should have gotten an A." (It's too late for Ray to appeal to the SUPEReme.) I guess Ray will just have to make another trip from out West in order to see Rich and the other Richmond area '78ers (**Mark James, Paul Russo, Bob Stolle, and Steve Feree**).

George Tyree sent an update to my previous reporting on **Rich Holzknicht** (Holzknicht@erols.com). The latest George has—and it's from a pretty reliable source (better known as Rich's wife, Jennifer)—is that the Holzknichts are now stationed in Virginia. Rich is an instructor at the military attaché school. They have a 14-month-old son (Richard) and are expecting a little surprise that is due in February. They didn't do any tests to determine

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Class Web site: www.usna79.com

Greetings, 79!

Welcome to 2001! Here's hoping the arrival of the New Year has found you and yours happy and well. I think a lot of you will agree with me that the year 2000 was one to remember. It certainly didn't seem like a normal year. Then again, I've heard that a "normal" year is just an average of ten abnormal ones!

Science fiction fan that I am, I can vividly remember watching the movie *2001—A Space Odyssey* growing up, and wondering if life on 21st-century Earth would be like it was portrayed in the flick. Well, there are no regularly scheduled flights to the moon yet, nor are we sending astronauts out to deeper space in cryogenic sleep. But we do have powerful talking computers (not necessarily "thinking" ones), cell and visual phones, and interactive TV. And we're also investigating the possibility that life might exist or may have existed on Mars. So perhaps the movie may have been more accurate in its predictions than would at first appear. And at the rate things proceed these days, we could be much closer at year's end.

It's hard to believe that I'm beginning my second year as your "faithful scribe." You all have made my first year in this position a whole lot of fun. Your cards, letters and emails are greatly appreciated, as they make this a much more enjoyable column to read (and this job a whole lot easier!).

So speaking of emails, let's get on with the important stuff. Tops on the list of multiple contributors is **Grant Thornton** (GThornton@atinc.com) who mentioned in his recent email that he traveled to Orlando in October to take in the Navy-Notre Dame game with his dad and **John Kaiser**. While Navy went down in defeat, it was a nice reunion with John and Jackie who had plenty of pictures of the newest Kaiser, Alex, who was born in July. Grant is also proud to report that his son David was recently recognized for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Thanks, Grant and John, and our congratulations to you and your sons!



John Kaiser and Grant Thornton

A few months back, I mentioned that I had run into **Mark Heinrich** (Mheinrich@cox.rr.com) during one of my at-sea periods. Inspired by seeing his name in bold, Mark sent along a great letter to

let us know that he, Judy and the boys have completed their cross-country move from San Diego to D.C. He assumed the duties as commanding officer of the Navy Petroleum Office on 18 September, relieving **CAPT Stu Funk '76**. Mark says that Judy is staying particularly busy taking care of the new house and getting *all* the boys out the door every day. Jared (12) is a 7th grader, and Colin (10) is in the 5th. And (surprise, surprise) they are all swimming at the local pool. Mark's working hard to get back in shape after what he honestly calls the highlight of his career: SUPPO of America's Flagship, *CONSTELLATION*. When our paths crossed last May, I could tell that Mark was in his element. I never saw a non-aviator have so much fun doing what he did on a ship! Being CO of NAVPET is a great challenge, he says. The job entails a fair amount of traveling, with visits to Navy and Marine Corps fuel facilities around the world. He's looking forward to getting back in touch with the many Classmates in the D.C. area. Like-minded individuals can reach him at home 703-250-6681 or work 703-767-7333, or by email. I hope to get up there and see him soon, as there is a rumor that he had both a chocolate and a vanilla "auto-dog" installed in the new house!



The Heinrichs: Jared, Mark, Judy, and Colin



Mark Heinrich, RADM Keith Lippert, and CAPT Stu Funk '76

Chad Sain (ChadSain@aol.com) took me up on my request for copies of Classmate Christmas letters, and sent along the Sain family update. Chad, Karen, Nick (12) and Brett (7) are living in Virginia Beach, where Chad is the new director of the Leadership Training Unit at the Little Creek Amphibious Base. Chad was promoted to Captain last September on the bridge of *IKE*, was the guest speaker at a retirement ceremony in October, and graduated from the senior course at the Naval War College in November. Whew! After a year as a geographic bachelor in Newport, he hopes to have completed his last family separation. Karen has continued substitute teaching, this year spending most of her time at the local public high school,

the baby's gender and hence are playing the guessing game so that's why it's a "surprise." George's old roommate, **Joe Britain** (britainjc@yuma.usmc.mil) is still a bachelor and now works back in his hometown at Yuma. Joe works at the Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma as the chief environmental engineer. He also is a drilling CDR with a Sea Bee unit on the West Coast and also serves as the Academy Liaison Officer for his local AZ Congressman for all the service academies. Joe planned to be at the Tyree household over the holidays. The Tyree kids are looking forward to maybe having their "Uncle Joe" join them in Florida this year for Christmas break when their Midshipman son, **Michael Tyree '04**, makes it home on leave from the Academy.

Kevin Liddy (kgliddy@us.ibm.com), our economist and Class Treasurer extraordinaire, is just about to finish his second master's from New York University. This one's an M.A. in economics. He already has the M.B.A. He got an A on his thesis. One of the evaluators, his thesis advisor (Professor Bob Kavesh), also happens to be Alan Greenspan's tennis partner—Does this mean we can see some of Kevin's work filtering into the Keeper of the U.S. economy plans?!

Kevin's graduation is 10 May 2001 (a Thursday) so I have "budgeted" some brain cells to be debited from my account. (See, I did learn something from the accounting Class.)

One of our Class "Sky Pilots" **Fred Hilder** (crmdhc@roosevelt.navy.mil) sent me an update on the '78ers aboard *TEDDY ROOSEVELT*. The wardroom leadership included from '78: Fred (chaplain), **CAPT Charlie Hautau** (XO), and **CAPT Glen Flanagan** (reactor officer). Charlie just left the ship and was headed on his way to Gaeta to assume command of *LA SALLE*, the Sixth Fleet Flagship.



'78 at Charlie's farewell

I hope to hear more details later on.

Well that's about it. If you guys ever fail to see a column in *Shipmate*, it doesn't necessarily mean an under-write and that I didn't write a column. I always intend to write one. Just check out our '78 Web site and you'll find one. You see I am sending these to our Webmaster, **Mike Holden**, so you can catch the news there as well. This "covers my six" so when I am *terribly* beyond deadline and the editors just can't give me any more time to count and recount the mail so as to accurately certify the column. (You'll see it quite legibly there—no hanging chads or need for a magnifying glass either—the software will zoom it for you.)

That's all for now folks... Launchin' Spot 4 (or was it Spot 6? Nope it was 4, there's a no vote for Spot 2 that added to the five but subtracted 3 made it...)

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