

Lancair. Just the week before his death we admired the newly upholstered interior together. Brad encouraged me to take a second look because I missed seeing the stripes of Navy blue and gold in the baggage area.

I have wonderful memories of our 27 year marriage, many of which take me back to our special times at the Academy. Brad always lived life to the fullest. In our last three months together we attended two Navy basketball games, visited the Bahamas twice (enclosed is a picture of our January visit to Great Exuma), attended two sessions of the John Jacobs Golf School in Florida, and attempted to golf in the snow at the Kingsmill Resort in Williamsburg.

Golf was the hobby Brad was perfecting, his New Year's resolution. We golfed at least twice a week and daily I waited for the question, "Do you want to go to the range?" I'm so grateful now that my answer was always yes. The highlight of Brad's last months was attending the Masters.

Our most special gifts are our three children, Stephen, Matthew, and Jennifer, who each in their own way will carry on Brad's legacy.

I would like to send my appreciation to Brad's classmates that attended the funeral and for all the kind words in cards and letters. It has been healing to sit down with the children and share your memories of Brad. We continue to pray for God's strength to help us through this difficult time.

Sincerely, Sue Lewis and children ■



Sue and Brad Lewis at Great Exuma

P.S. Rick White advises that the number of error messages received from his weekly emails is increasing. If you haven't been getting his emails it could be the result of several failure modes:

1. Rick doesn't have your address on his list, in which case, you need to send it to him.

2. Your email is wrong at the Alumni Association and you need to provide the correct address.

3. You do not clean out your mailbox and it rejects all inbounds, in which case, please maintain it.

4. Your spam blocker doesn't allow emails from Rick to get through, and it requires updating to allow them to be received.

We will be using email and Shipmate to send out information regarding the upcoming 30th, so please help us help you. Sincerely, Jerry Maguire

**78** ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 2%  
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 75%

PRES: Glen Woods

SEC'Y: Vince Balderrama

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Forgive me if this column appears to be a bit cursory. There are a lot of pics I want to squeeze in for this month. As they eat a lot of my word allocation the accompanying verbiage may be a tad sparse on elaboration and some of my um — "unique" editorial.

Another blast of a change of command, promotion and retirement occurred over the past few weeks (now months). On 20 July, **Glen Ives** assumed command of the Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Maryland. The week before on July 14<sup>th</sup>, **Kurt Tidd**, was promoted to Rear Admiral (Lower Half) at a ceremony at the Army/Navy Country Club. Family and friends included VADM **Jim Stavridis** ('76), Kurt's parents "Muggs" and VADM (Ret.) Emmett H. Tidd, and his wife, CDR Eileen Tidd, Medical Corps and their daughters, Jackie (8) and Katy (9). Class of '78 attendees were RADM **Andy Winns**, our esteemed President — **Glen Woods**, Kurt's roommate — CDR (Ret.) **Les Wallace**, and RDML **Mark Fox**.



Stav and the Tids



Winns, Woods, Tid and Fox

In another promotion of sorts, our webmaster, **Rob Cloutier**, received his Ph.D. in Systems Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology in May. Rob's a fellow Lockheed Martin employee and works as a Systems Architect in our Moorestown facility. He and Janice live in Mullica Hill, NJ. They invite you to drop in— if you're ever in the neighborhood. His contact information is on our website.

**Glen Shipman** (Pianomn100@aol.com) wrote about a visit he enjoyed last fall from his 8th Company roommate, **Greg Mankey**, and also **John "J.B." Hollyer**. During the visit, Glen "showed them how the game of pool is supposed to be played ... it's all geometry and speed control." (Sounds like he hustled them.) This year his youngest daughter, Lisa, graduated from high school. She turned 18 in February. His oldest daughter, Jessica, turned 21 in March. Both girls will be attending Towson University this year here in MD (Jess as a Sr. and Lisa as a freshman.) Glen acknowledged the milestone 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday almost all of us are celebrating this year (except for you Napsters, a few youngins (Like **Gary Lovgren**) and the handful of guys who entered the class as "old salts"). To Glen's satisfaction, the gray just seems to blend in with his blonde hair. (Hell, at least you have hair!) He's currently teaching piano lessons to children, and also uses his nimble fingers to do typing work on the side. As this goes to print he was in the job market to search for another Leadership position. In the meantime, he's also written some poetry. If anyone is interested, you can visit [www.poetry.com](http://www.poetry.com) to see his work.

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Mankey, Shipman and Hollyer

**Matt Elias** wrote of a Dallas '78 Happy Hour in mid July. The result of **Rusty Cone's** brain work, Matt hopes it was the first of many regular 78 'get togethers' in the Dallas-Fort Worth metro-plex.

According to the records of the local alumni chapter, there are 24 classmates in that large area that stretches from Tyler to Granbury. (That's an area larger than Matt's home of record, Rhode Island.). This first event had eight classmates and two wives in attendance at *Love and War in Texas*, a restaurant/bar in Plano. About half of the crowd stayed for dinner after happy hour and "a good time was had by all". In attendance that night were: **Rusty Cone**, **Dave Daily** (a recent addition to the Raytheon team after years at Alcatel and one small stop in between), Kelly and **Jeff Dickman** (recent additions to the area, Jeff retired last fall at NAS Meridien and has been here since November but Kelly and the kids just got there around May); **Mike Huber** (He's still head hunting - mostly for banks.), **Charlie Love** (He's a long time Texan (originally from Longview in East Texas) and works at Raytheon with Dave.), Cathy and **Tom Morse** (They drove in from Tyler (about an hour and a half east of Dallas) with the two girls, spent the night and were hitting the malls for some serious shopping the next day.); **Scott Stoner** (He's back in Texas after a short stay in northern California.); and of course, Matt. If you're in the Dallas area and didn't get

an e-mail from Matt about the happy hour, please drop him an e-mail at [mpgee@aol.com](mailto:mpgee@aol.com) to make sure you make the next one. If you're passing through, check in. They just might be having an event during your stay. Good luck sustaining the event, Matt. It sounds great!



78's Dallas Happy Hour

As I wrote a few issues ago, I finally did it. On June 16<sup>th</sup> at a ceremony in Memorial Hall, I retired from the Marine Corps Reserves. Thanks to: **Steve "Jock" Maloney** who "officiated" and made remarks. They retained just enough of the trademark Maloney wit, "exaggeration" and sarcasm to be on the mark but appropriately "kind". Thanks also to my flight school roomie, **John "Newk" Newcomb** who acted as Master of Ceremonies. He deviated enough from my script to surprise me and made it his own. Thanks also to **Al "Blues" Baker** for making it back in time from leave to give me a memorable invocation and benediction. He evoked memories of our Santa Ana youth, our days at Mother B and my career and gave prayerful hopes for me and my family (From your lips to God's ears, Blues). Thanks to all you classmates, shipmates, squadron mates, Marines and sailors, for all your overwhelmingly kind e-mails and words of encouragement. You were well-represented by the physical presence also of classmates **Tim Hanifen, Tim Arcano, Brett Ayotte, Bruce Latta, John Rudzis, Marty Thamm, Tom Crowley, Gary Eisenman, Steve Petri, Billy Hession,**

**Alex Dimitrew, Steve Sutton, Chris Jensen, Walt Brown, John Rudder, Barth Doroschuk, George Billy** and my squadron mate Joe "Joe Marine" Shusko. Also helping out in the ceremony was 2/Lt **John Rottenberg ('06)** who sang our national anthem and led in the traditional *sing along* (Blue and Gold and Eternal Father). He's got a world-class bass voice that'll come in handy giving orders in his Marine Corps career. Also on-hand was a Midshipman 2/C **Taylor Brashear**. He is sponsored by my in-laws and volunteered his services. Turned out he's **Steve Brashear's** (my 11<sup>th</sup> compa-nymate) nephew! It was a pretty emotional moment for me — thought I'd be cool but must confess it was a little tough to talk about what you guys, the Naval service and being a Marine means to me. It was made even more meaningful with Elizabeth, Michael and especially my dad, SgtMaj Bruno Balderrama, USMC (Ret) also present (all the way from California), as well as my in-laws. I encourage you to have some ceremony to mark your retirements. Whether a large or small event, you'll find it rewarding, cathartic and reaffirming. It helps having classmates there too.

As I wrap this up, two last items. First, please go onto our web site [www.usna1978.org](http://www.usna1978.org) and update your personal information. The site enables you to do this yourself. I've even done it so that's proof it's simple and easy! Second, if anyone has a desire to offload ring miniatures or even class rings please let me know. I'm sure we can find someone in the class who needs one replaced or in the case of miniatures — classmates with wives who've been wanting for one for a long time (trust me on that). I'm sure they could make you a good offer and we'd still "keep it in the family", rather than some e-bay "collector" who'll just turn it around for re-sale (Actually saw a guy who claimed a miniature he had for sale was from an estate sale. Wanted over \$2,000 for it, at first!) The museum also accepts donations of rings. Well, that's it, out of space and quota. Until next month — Launchin' Spot Four!

*Editor's note:* This photo should have been included in the June-July '78 column. *Shipmate* regrets the error.



Tom Algeo with S-61



78 at Vince's Retirement