

Memories of Bruce D. Loughridge

By a member of the U.S. Submarine Veterans Bremerton, Washington, Base

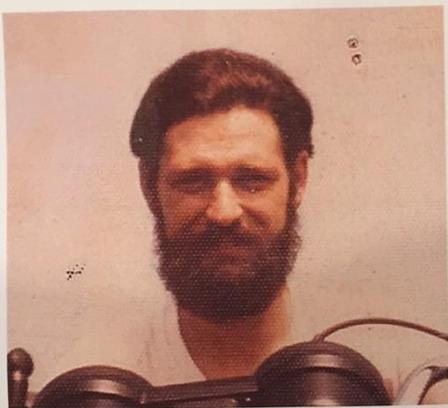
About 15 members attended Bruce's Memorial service at Lewis Funeral Chapel, WA on Friday, February 24, 2017. A few made comments about Bruce's life. All concluded he was a very positive person.

Chief ICman Bruce Loughridge passed away at St Joseph's Hospital in Tacoma on January 31, 2017 at the age of 69. Bruce had been ambulated, and in and out of nursing facilities and hospitals since June 14, 2016 when he suffered a stroke that paralyzed his left side. For many years prior to this, most know that Bruce suffered from cancer of the esophagus, which in the long run required his voice box be removed and feeding through a tube. But through this all, he was able to maintain his sense of humor, and as you know, a jokester.

Bruce was the son of a WWII Navy submarine officer, Donald, also a Bremerton Base member, who went on eternal patrol in 2013. Bruce joined the Navy in 1965 and retired in 1993. Between boot camp, 1965 and 1970, Bruce did spend some time as a student at the Naval Academy Prep School. He qualified in submarines on the USS James Monroe (SSBN-622) in 1971 and was a ICC(SS) when he left the Navy. Besides Monroe, Bruce served in Bonefish, Flyingfish, Nathan Hale, Permit, Darter and Haddo.

After retirement, Bruce went to college and became a Central Kitsap Junior high school instructor, but was diagnosed with cancer ending that career. About 1980, Bruce married his wife, Mellie, of 37 years, they had a daughter and a son, and now 3 grandchildren. I remember when Bruce was a regular soupdown attendee and often would bring his granddaughters with him that he was babysitting. Although some may have thought it inappropriate, I enjoyed it all. (Young kids are great!) Bruce, I'm sad that I could not have seen you sooner before you went on eternal patrol. You made us all smile. Rest your Oar.

In Loving Memory of
Bruce Donald Loughridge



Sunrise
November 4, 1947

Sunset
February 1, 2017

"Bruce D. Loughridge, 69, passed away peacefully with his wife at his side. He is survived by his wife Neljaya T. Loughridge, his two children Sara and Thomas, and two brothers Scott and Barry Loughridge. He has lived in the city of Bremerton for the last 20 years.



He was born Nov 4, 1947 in Seattle to Donald and Jean Loughridge. He enlisted in the US Navy, serving for 27 years and retired a Chief Petty Officer. He received his Bachelor's at the UW and would spend time as a middle school teacher before being diagnosed with cancer.

In his retirement years, Bruce was accomplished at building/flying model airplanes, fixing cars, and everything he put his mind too. He was a very social and talkative individual who did much to involve himself with his family and friends. We thank him for words and lessons, he will be missed."