

**BOIVIN, Neil Roland [UNTD CATARAQUI (RMC) '51 U-7487] (1931 - 2016) Age: 85**

**Captain Neil Roland Boivin (January 06, 1931 - April 05, 2016)**



It is with sorrow that we advise of the peaceful passing of our Dad on April 5, 2016 at the age of 85.

Born on January 6, 1931, in Bonfield, Ontario, he attended Royal Military College Kingston, Royal Roads Military College, and Greenwich Royal Naval College before joining active service as a RCN submariner. He had a long and distinguished career which took the family throughout the world, with foreign postings in the UK, Singapore, Australia, and Brussels where he served as Senior Staff Officer SACLANTREPEUR NATO HQ.

The majority of his career was spent at sea on both coasts, where he earned the privilege of commanding three Canadian Naval destroyers, HMCS Ottawa, HMCS Skeena, and HMCS Yukon. He was extremely proud to have had the opportunity to be the inaugural Commanding Officer of the Navy's first bilingual ship HMCS Ottawa. After 36 years of loyal and exemplary service he retired from the regular Navy in 1986 as the Chief of Staff (Readiness) Maritime Pacific Command.

Intelligent, energetic and mischievous, Dad lived life to the fullest especially enjoying camping, fishing and skiing. Dad volunteered countless hours teaching disabled children swimming with the Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health. He logged many long walks with his faithful canine companions Yukon, Jake, and Buddy.

He is survived by his children, Janice (Murray), Michael (Bonnie), and Gerry (Sally), grandchildren Chris (Jennifer), Tyler (Hiromi), Andrew, and Arielle, great-grandchildren Ayanna, Alex, Abigail, Ethan, Maddox and Emmett, brothers Dick, Pat, and Ben and sister Ann. He was predeceased by his true love and wife Audrey, and his brother Danny.

The family would like to sincerely thank the staff on the Aston Unit at Selkirk Place Assisted Living for the wonderful care and attention Dad received in the last two and a half years of his life. Donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Society or a charity of your choice.

Neil was a true family man and friend to many. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

A Celebration of Life is being planned for early August.

"Fair Winds and Following Seas"

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Neil was one of a number of CanServCol Naval Cadets who were integrated into the UNTD/NavRes system for summer training/pay/admin purposes, during the first-half of the 1950's. There were over 200 of them that we know of, coming from all 3 Colleges, RMC, RR, CMR. They were all attached to the NRDs nearest their College. Some were issued U-numbers, such as Neil was, others weren't and that appears to have depended on their year of entry. Neil entered RMC in the Fall of 1950 and was issued his U-number on March 27, 1951. He had 2 UNTD summers: 1951 (East Coast), 1952 (West Coast).

He was Commissioned as a A/SLT RCN, sen. 2 Jan '54.

His ID-numbers up until 1968 were: RMC 3197, U-7487, O-7406.

The dates of his Destroyer Commands were:

OTTAWA 229 1972-1973, SKEENA 207 1973-1975, YUKON 263 1978-81

Bill C.