

Donald P. Roane

Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Retired)

Donald “Pete” Roane passed away peacefully at home in Dutton, Virginia on 8 April 2018. The son of Katherine and Virginius Roane, Pete was born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1930. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy with the Class of 1952. He served 35 years in the Navy, retiring in 1987 at the rank of Rear Admiral. His naval decorations included the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with Combat “V”, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

After returning from his first deployment in the destroyer USS HALE, Pete married Barbara Humphrey, of Connellsville, Pennsylvania, in December 1952. They were blessed with three sons; Peter, Bob, and Pat. Barbara and Pete had seven grandchildren, one great-grandson, and eight nieces and nephews. Although service in the Navy often kept him away from home for many months, Pete was a devoted and supportive family man who especially cherished his time with Barbara, his “one and only.” Barbara passed in 2012.

After 35 years of Navy life, Barbara and Pete made their home at Old Office on the Piankatank River in Mathews County, Virginia in 1987. Pete’s dedication to service benefitted many community organizations, to include the Mathews County Planning Commission, Mathews County Historical Society, and Ware Academy. Pete was a faithful parishioner of Ware Episcopal Church, serving as senior warden of the vestry and treasurer for many years.

Services will be conducted at Ware Church in Gloucester at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, 15 April 2018. The family is especially thankful for the pastoral care ministry of Ware Church, the nurses and aides of Riverside Walter Reed Hospice, and the caregivers of Visiting Angels. In lieu of flowers, it is requested that donations be made to support the music ministry of Ware Church, the Gloucester-Mathews Care Clinic, and the Gloucester-Mathews Humane Society.