

SAMUEL RANDOLPH SIMPSON JR. '45

Captain Samuel R. Simpson Jr., USN (Ret.), passed away peacefully on 9 March 2008, at his winter home in Stuart, FL.

"Sam" was born in Knoxville, TN, on 12 June 1922, the first child of Samuel R. Simpson Sr. and his wife, Leila Weigel. He graduated from the Naval Academy with the Class of 1945. His Navy career spanned 28 years of active duty.

Upon being commissioned an ensign in the Supply Corps, Sam joined LST Group Ninety-Six. He then served onboard HYADES for two years with another two years at NAS Norfolk. From 1950 to 1952, Sam served at the embassy in Rome, Italy. After one year as an instructor of marine engineering at the Naval Academy, he attended Harvard Business School. He received his M.B.A. with distinction in 1955. Following a three year assignment at the Submarine Supply Office in Philadelphia, PA, he joined NORTHAMPTON as supply officer. In the early 1960s, he was in the Navy Department in Washington, DC, and then attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. From 1964 to 1967, Sam was on the staff of the U.S. Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor, HI, and in 1967, became executive officer of the Naval Electronics Supply Office in Great Lakes, IL. His final tour of duty was as commanding officer of the Naval Supply Center, Puget Sound, Bremerton, WA.

After his retirement in 1972, Sam spent 14 years with AMP, Inc., in Harrisburg, PA, as director of systems services. Retiring again in 1986, he became president of WMP FM, a non-profit radio station owned by Market Square Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg. Sam served as an elder and trustee at this church, on the board of trustees of Homeland, an assisted care living facility, and was a member of the Rotary Club for more than 30 years. He enjoyed serving his church, as well as golf and reading.

Sam is survived by his wife of 60 years, Lucy Bardwell, formerly of Clarksville, TN; daughter, Lucy Leclair and her husband, Thomas, a retired Army lieutenant colonel, of Columbia, SC; son, S. Randolph Simpson III and his wife, Cindy of Leesburg, FL; three grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

A memorial service was held at the Naval Academy Chapel on 7 April 2008. His remains were inurned at the Naval Academy Columbarium.

Memorial gifts may be made to Market Square Presbyterian Church, 20 South Second St., Harrisburg, PA 17101.

From: USNA Alumni Assn