



Rear Admiral James Brendon Morin

October 27, 1927 - July 4, 2021

Rear Admiral James B. Morin, US Navy (Retired) died on July 4th, 2021 in Tallahassee, FL. It was a fitting day based on his decades of military service. James Brendon Morin was born on October 27, 1927 in Cohoes, New York, the son of Paul Joseph Morin of Fitchburg, MA, and Noreen Theresa Wynne of Kilflynn, County Kerry, Ireland. He was a graduate of St Peter's High School of Worcester, MA, and the University of California at Berkley.

In 1945, he enlisted in the US Navy in the V-5 pilot training program, and earned his Naval Aviator wings in 1948 at Pensacola Naval Air Station, becoming one of the "Flying Midshipmen." While on leave from the Navy in 1949, he married his high school sweetheart, Betty Anne Kane in Worcester, MA. They raised five children who defined the slogan, "We are a Navy family." Rear Admiral Morin's Navy career spanned 34-years and included service in both wartime and peacetime. He had six commands, including Attack Squadron VA-155, the Silver Foxes (for which he led the first US Navy air attacks into North Vietnam from USS CORAL SEA (CVA-43) in 1965); Attack Carrier Air Wing Seven; Light Attack Wing One; USS LA SALLE (AGF-3); AND USS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT (CVA-42). He was promoted to Rear Admiral on July 1, 1975. He retired from the US Navy in 1979.

He is survived by his five children, nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren. His children are:

Captain James Brendon Morin Jr, USN (Ret), and his wife Louise.

Sarah Morin Bishop, Former Chairman of Children's Hospital of the King's

Daughters, and her husband Bruce. Children Elizabeth and Margaret.

Commander John Patrick Morin, USN (Ret), and his wife Denise. Children Catherine and Lieutenant John P, USN.

Commander Mary Margaret Morin, USNR (Ret), and System Vice President, Sentara Healthcare, and her husband David Spinazolla. Mary's son is John Francis.

Lydia Noreen Morin Ackermann, whose husband is Captain Glen Ackermann, USN (Ret). Children Lydia Kathleen, Nora Katherine, former Lieutenant USN, Lieutenant Brendon, USN, and Connor.

A few years after Betty Anne's death in 1992, Jim Morin moved to Tallahassee with his partner, Rita Johnson. They lived together in Tallahassee for the past 27 years.

Rear Admiral James B Morin will be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium with full military honors. His ashes will be inurned next to Betty Anne's at a date to be determined.

The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Wednesday July 7, 2021 at Bevis Funeral Home. Todd Wahlquist with Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193, www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the Morin family with their arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington, VA

Previous Events

Fellowship and Visitation

JUL 7. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory
200 John Knox Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-2193

Tribute Wall

CG

“ *Godspeed sir. Admiral Morin was my first skipper on the USS FDR CVA42. I was a young 18 year old cook and I believe he helped shape my life. He would come down to the galley and personally come in and talk one on one. His smile and greetings showed great leadership and love for his crew. I can still see him with his trademark cigar. He taught me humility and leadership just by his actions. Around 10 years ago I looked him up and emailed him. We corresponded throughout the years and he even sent me his book *Wind at our Backs* with a personal note. After all these years he stayed humble and kind. I'm sure his family was proud of him and I am proud to have served under his command. He was, as far as I know, the last surviving Commanding Officer of Rosie. Godspeed, fair winds and following seas. And, keep the wind at your back....*

Carlo L. Giraulo
USN MS2

Carlo Giraulo - August 03, 2021 at 04:04 PM

JJ

“ *Anchors Aweigh for a true war hero and great American. He will be missed by all. Barbara and I were privileged to join Jim and Rita on their last ocean cruise, and to share so many good times with them. My condolences to his loving partner, Rita, and all of the members of the Morin family, for their great loss. This man will be remembered for his many accomplishments, as well as his kindness. God bless him. Jerry Johnston*

Jerry Johnston - July 06, 2021 at 01:18 PM

JW

I had the privilege of flying with the then Capt Morin on our our cruise in the Med. We weathered a storm on our way home that caused us to stay a course to avoid possible catastrophic seas. A fine man, good person and superior C.O. He did well in the help and kept a true course and altitude. Not easy for a pilot unfamiliar with helos. RIP Adm Jim. He wore his name tag on his aviator leather jacket that said Jim Morin midshipman with pride and distinction. See you soon Skipper when my watch is over

Jon Walker Helo Det 42.

Jon Walker - August 04, 2021 at 11:43 PM



He was a great friend & pilot. We spent many hours together in the cockpit. He could turn a perfect VFR day into IFR when he fired up a cigar.

Bob Hilterbrick - January 15, 2023 at 05:28 PM

SB

I was a VA 155 Silver Fox from 1963 to Aug. 1965, serving in the Aircraft Electrical Shop for our A4B and A4E Skyhawks. Commander Morin then was a fine officer and treated us enlisted folks very well. I was there for both the 1963 Cruise to Australia, and of course the 1964 to 1965 cruise that covered our combat time in Vietnam. These were long tough days of us support folks, as well for our pilots like Commander Morin. I stumbled on this as I was today reading a past article he wrote back in January 2001, "Belated Honors" by RADM Jim B. Morin. I left the USN as a AE3 (PO 3 Class), but retired from service as a SMSgt (E-8) USAF. I always hold the Silver Foxes VA-155 near and dear to my heart, and remember those we loss in service.

SMSgt. Paul A. Bergeron - February 25, 2023 at 01:59 PM