



## David Wesley Psilas

November 19, 1946 - March 27, 2025

David Wesley Psilas, 78, Centreville, MD, passed away March 27, 2025 surrounded by family and friends. Dave served in the US Navy retiring with the rank of Chief. Dave was a Vietnam War Veteran . He worked at the NSA until his retirement in 2020. Dave was a passionate golfer and played golf all over the world. He was a member of Prospect Bay Country Club. He played with many golf groups at PBCC, was the "Commissioner" of the Scratchers, and was a friend to all. He is remembered for his friendly face, competitiveness, outgoing personality and great golf skills. Dave was an avid bowler and a member of the Bowling Hall of Fame. He is predeceased by his wife Linda Psilas (Higgs) and parents Nikolas & Eleanore Psilas. Dave is survived by Sherry Bird, cousin & Noreen Higgs, sister-in-law. Services will be held at the Crownsville Veterans Cemetery Monday April 28, 2025 at 1130AM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Compass Hospice 160 Coursevall Drive, Centreville, MD .

# Cemetery Details

## Crownsville Veterans Cemetery

Crownsville, MD

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

APR 28. 11:30 AM (ET)

Crownsville Veterans Cemetery Chapel  
1122 Sunrise Beach Road  
Crownsville, MD

# Tribute Wall

TB

“ While in the Navy in May, 1991, I first met Dave. Dave was assigned as my mentor as I was getting trained up for a desk at NSOC that needed to be filled sooner than later. I ended up being tied to him for the next 2 or 3 weeks, 8 hours a day, even through his numerous smoke breaks. During this time, Dave's office was hosting a golf scramble, and his team had an opening so he asked me to join them. After that outing, he took me under his wing to help refine my game.

Only knowing Dave and Linda through work and golf for a year and half at the time, they surprised me when they came over to my house for my 30th birthday party. That struck me as way above and beyond the usual friendship I previously experienced while in the Navy.

Dave and I kept in touch as I completed my next overseas assignment, and upon my return to the area I was invited to play in his regular groups at the Ft. Meade courses. Dave was always there to help me out when my swing had gone wonky. He'd watch me swing about 5 times on the range and tell me what he thought, and usually that was enough of a tweek I needed and off I'd go, until the next mental breakdown and he'd look me over again. Every spring my swing was crap, and I needed Dave to have eyeballs on me to finally get me back on track. That annual feedback will be missed. I accompanied Dave on several golf trips throughout the years, a bunch to Myrtle Beach, one to Pinehurst and I even talked him into going out to Vegas a few years ago with a bunch of guys he hardly knew and he wasn't feeling great. Dave tried to make the best out of the situation when he didn't have his "A" game. He'd pick up, get out of your way and tell you a story or 5 along the way. It didn't matter if you heard the same exact story before, he'd even ask if you heard it before, and off he'd go telling it again.

Dave was my defense lawyer at my Chief's initiation in '97, he did a great job for me, as he spoke his "East L.A." Spanish better than the native Spanish speaking judge "Jolly", and had me promptly dismissed as the judge didn't want to be further linguistically embarrassed.

As Linda pushed through her medical issues, I remember Dave

*missing out on several golf engagements with the guys. Dave would stay by her side till the end.*

*After Linda's passing, Dave was a frequent visitor to our house out in Westminster. He would visit for a few hours just to reminisce about Linda, the Navy, and golf. He enjoyed several holidays with us and our families as he even got to know some of our grandchildren. We enjoyed his company and he enjoyed just being able to hang out with us to escape his now silent house. When Dave moved to the eastern shore, golfing together and the visits became less frequent, as he simply did not want to deal with the bridge traffic.*

*Dave was a great story teller, and some of the highlights I recall include:*

*Dave was a trumpet player in the USC marching band while he was still in high school.*

*Dave jumped out of an aircraft over the Gulf of Tonkin after the aircraft had an engine taken out by an enemy missile, and the pilot eventually safely landed that aircraft back in the Philippines.*

*Dave was preparing to do a briefing in the White House basement when Henry Kissinger made a surprise visit and Dave started the briefing by saying, "Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr. Secretary, my name is unimportant" and proceeded to do the brief. Dave would always start a round by saying "I know one thing, I'm gonna have fun." Then he'd turn to me and tell me to try to do the same. I'd grumble something profane, and tell him..."Shut up Psilas, I'll try."*

*If I didn't see him for a while, when we did talk on the phone, he would give me a hole by hole replay of his last 1 or 2 rounds, things that he is working on with his swing, club politics, D.C. politics and more stories. Those conversations will be missed.*

*Dave, you will be missed brother, you were a great friend to the family. You will not be forgotten, and thank you for all that you have done to influence our lives. Troy & Lisa Barrall*

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**Troy Barrall** - April 23, 2025 at 05:40 PM

AW

“ I met Linda and Dave in 1969/70 while stationed in Japan. I knew they were destined to be together in life. We hit it off as friends due to our love of bowling. Dave recalled things about some of our bowling exploits better than I, but memories were happy ones.

After my time in the Army was up, I returned to the U.S and Dave and I stayed in touch. I was invited to their wedding. Kathi, my fiancée, and I attended. Kathi was now part of the Psilas/Wagner family. The Psilas' were headed back to Japan for another tour of duty, and we seemed to lose touch. Several years later I did a search for Dave and found him. I called and it was like no time had passed. Dave and Linda were the first people to meet our first baby. The four of us enjoyed time together over the years. We mourned when Linda died.

In the following years Dave would come to Vegas to watch my teammates and me bowl in the Military Tournament and then come to AZ to spend time with us. By this time Dave was really into golf and abandoned bowling due to knee and hip issues. One of my fondest memories of one of his visits was having him come to league to watch me and then have the joy of bowling a perfect game. When in Japan, it was hard for me to beat him.

He will be missed. There are too many memories for him to ever be forgotten.

Alan & Kathi Wagner  
Sun City, AZ

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Alan Wagner - April 05, 2025 at 12:57 PM