



Admiral Sylvester Robert Foley, Jr, USN (Ret.)

September 19, 1928 - December 31, 2019

Admiral Sylvester Robert Foley, Jr., USN (Ret.) of Chester, MD passed away on December 31, 2019 at his home. He was 91.

Born on September 19, 1928 in Manchester, New Hampshire, he was the son of the late Sylvester Robert Foley, Sr. and Gladys Foley. Bob was a graduate of the United States Naval Academy in 1950 and served until 1985 when he retired as a four-star Admiral. He was a graduate of the Naval War College in 1968 and was a Distinguished Graduate of the Air War College. He served as Commander, US Seventh Fleet and Commander-in-Chief, US Pacific Fleet from 1982 to 1985. After retirement Bob served as President Ronald Regan's Assistant Secretary of Energy for Defense Programs. In 1988 he entered the private sector and was President of the Advanced Technology Group at ICF Kaiser Engineers. In 1991 he joined the Raytheon Company and served as vice president of marketing; president of Raytheon Japan and vice president of Asian operations. His time spent in Japan earned him one of their highest honors, recipient of the Order of the Rising Sun. Bob also earned the Navy Distinguished Service Medal; French Legion of Honor; National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Order of the Cloud and Banner; Bob then went on to serve as a consultant to the Departments of Defense and Energy and was a member of President George W. Bush's energy transition team. He also went on to be appointed as the University of California's vice president for laboratory management in Los Alamos, Lawrence Livermore, and Lawrence Berkeley.

He is survived by his wife Ellen K. Rogers Foley of Chester, MD; children Sylvester Foley, III (Peggy); Maureen Nunez (Bill); Brenda Gardner (Kevin); Christopher Foley (Lisa); step children Kathleen Farrell (Chuck); Kristin Kirkconnell; Bill Kirkconnell (Beckey); 10 grandchildren; and 13 great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife, Kathleen Foley. A service will be held on Friday, January 10, 2020 at 10:30 am at the United States Naval Academy Chapel in Annapolis, MD. Burial will follow in the United States Naval Academy Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

United States Naval Academy Cemetery

Annapolis, MD

Previous Events

Service

JAN 10. 10:30 AM (ET)

United States Naval Academy Chapel
United States Naval Academy
Annapolis, MD 21402

Tribute Wall



“ *Admiral Sylvester Robert Foley, Jr, USN (Ret.)*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Admiral Sylvester Robert Foley, Jr, USN (Ret.)*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Admiral Sylvester Robert Foley, Jr, USN (Ret.)*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *I was security at 1 Lakeside drive Oakland in the early 2000s where Bob had a residence. He was a very kind man and one would never know his history unless you asked him. He always treated us with the utmost respect. RIP sir.*

Randy Smith

Randy Smith - September 25, 2020 at 02:16 AM



“ *My commanding officer aboard the USS Coronado LPD 11. I had the honor and privilege of driving his boat.*

keith white - September 05, 2020 at 05:38 PM

RP

“ Sincere condolences to the Foley family! I first met ADM. Foley when he graduated from the Air War College with my Dad in 1968. I was an Ensign of 15 days. We next met when he took command of USS MIDWAY in 1972 during some of the most intense air combat of the Viet Nam war. We junior officers knew he had our six from the get go!! It just so happened Midway made the longest combat cruise in history...11 1/2 months with 211 days on the line mostly up North. His leadership was fantastic and sustained us! He got me qualified as an OOD UNDERWAY and Conning alongside during unreprs. Because of his mentorship years later I commanded the carrier USS KITTY HAWK CV-63. I tried to copy him as CO with some success. Most recently a couple of years ago he made the trip to San Diego and USS MIDWAY to speak at an awards ceremony for Rear Admiral MoneyMaker and myself for sinking several PT boats attacking the Seventh Fleet flagship one dark night 40 years earlier. That is the way he was and that is why we would follow him into Harm's way!!! A great warrior, Naval Officer and true Gentleman! He will be missed!! In sadness...

W. W. Pickavance, Jr.
Rear Admiral United States Navy

radm pickavance - January 16, 2020 at 07:05 PM

CG

“ Chris Griner purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Admiral Sylvester Robert Foley, Jr, USN (Ret.).



Chris Griner - January 09, 2020 at 08:48 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Admiral Sylvester Robert Foley, Jr, USN (Ret.).



January 08, 2020 at 05:48 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray* was purchased for the family of Admiral Sylvester Robert Foley, Jr, USN (Ret.).



January 08, 2020 at 11:06 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of Admiral Sylvester Robert Foley, Jr, USN (Ret.).



January 07, 2020 at 02:04 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Admiral Sylvester Robert Foley, Jr, USN (Ret.).



January 07, 2020 at 09:53 AM

RH

“ *Mid Summer evenings, laughter, music, campfires, Duckhorn into the small hours. The forest echoes those times. Stronger for the moments shared. The redwoods weep at summers end. Loved Him, Myra and Rick*

Rick Hubacher - January 05, 2020 at 11:46 AM

MH

“ *Admiral Foley was an extraordinary Naval Officer, and a tireless supporter of the United States Naval Academy. His superlative professionalism, humility, and quick wit were treasured by the Superintendents, and all who understood how important his Alma Mater is to the Navy, and the Nation. We could not have asked for a better friend, nor more sage counsel from a Naval Aviator who has now "slipped the surly bonds of earth". God Bless, and God Speed, Admiral Foley and his entire family. M.H.Miller, VADM, USN (ret)*

mhmiller - January 03, 2020 at 05:53 PM