

Joseph L. Lockett III, CAPT USN Ret.

Joe Lockett, a resident of San Marcos TX since 2009, died at home on February 24, 2018 from complications of Alzheimer's dementia.

Born January 10, 1939 in Houston TX, he graduated from Rice University in 1961 (BA History) and then served in the US Navy until retiring in 1990 with the rank of Captain. In 1963 he married his Rice classmate Sharon Atkins Lockett and they moved to San Diego CA where he resumed duties in USS Lofberg (DD-759). During his career he served in five surface warfare ships (commanding the last two) and completed six deployments in the western Pacific.

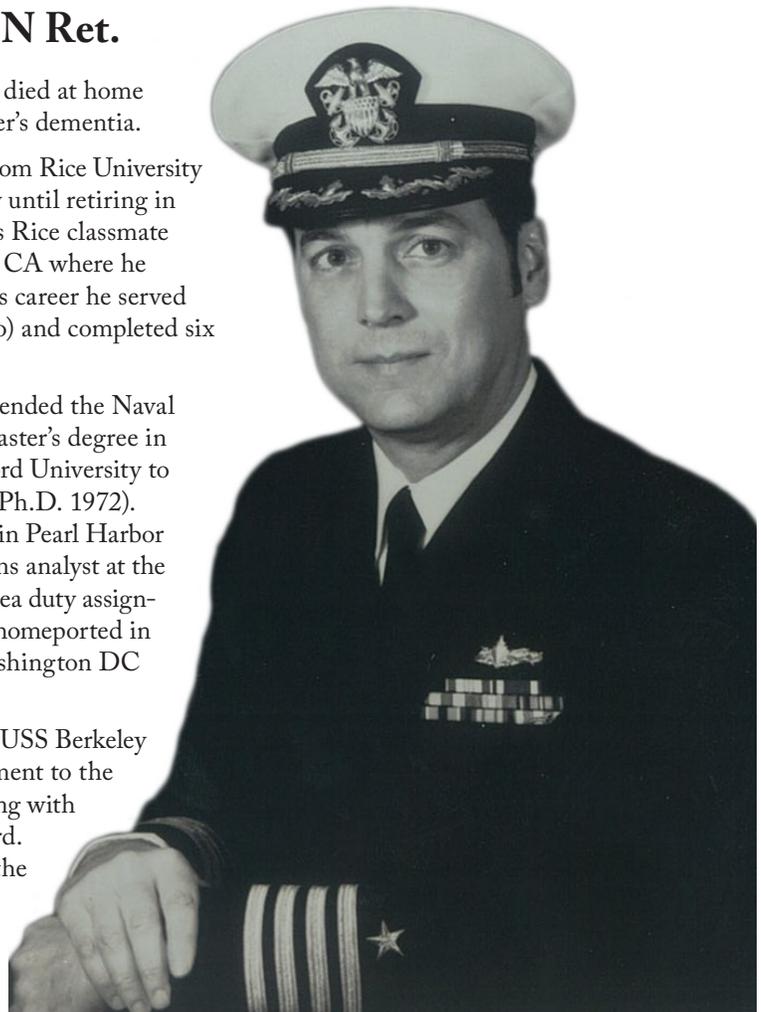
As his first shore duty assignment, CAPT Lockett attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey CA and earned a master's degree in Operations Research before moving directly to Stanford University to begin a doctoral program in Mathematical Statistics (Ph.D. 1972). After sea duty in USS Reeves (DLG-24) home-ported in Pearl Harbor HI, CAPT Lockett served as a program and operations analyst at the Center for Naval Analyses in Arlington VA. His next sea duty assignment was as executive officer in USS Gridley (CG-21), homeported in San Diego CA, followed in 1979 by shore duty in Washington DC as analyst for naval mobility forces at the Pentagon.

In January 1981 CAPT Lockett assumed command of USS Berkeley (DDG-15) in San Diego CA before the ship's deployment to the western Pacific, including a visit to Australia and ending with an extended overhaul at Long Beach CA naval shipyard. Following this assignment, CAPT Lockett attended the Naval War College and held several positions in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations in Washington DC. In 1985 CAPT Lockett assumed command of USS Sterett (CG-31) in Subic Bay, Philippines.

CAPT Lockett's final assignment was as Deputy Director of Research Programs at the Office of Naval Research in Arlington VA. After retirement from Active Duty in 1990, he joined the Institute for Defense Analyses in Alexandria, Virginia, serving as a Defense Analyst in the Operational Evaluation Division. In 2009 he and Sharon sold their home in Arlington VA, built a new house in San Marcos TX, and began enjoying and supporting their new community.

Outside his professional life, Joe Lockett supported equal opportunity for all, as evidenced by his participation in the 1961 "sit-in" at the Greyhound Bus Station lunch counter in Houston TX. He championed young naval recruits who had no clear vision of their future but thrived with education and discipline in the Navy, often remarking that young dedicated sailors are "the best ever." Later he and Sharon offered a church-sponsored Saturday computer lab for disadvantaged students participating in the "I Have A Dream" program in the Washington DC area. Joe became an expert in home repair and construction while refurbishing their house in Arlington VA during shore duty assignments, and built and enhanced a home sound system which moved with the family.

Joe is survived by his wife Margaret Sharon Lockett of San Marcos and two sons: Joseph Lockett of Bellaire TX (wife Jennifer Drummond), and Bryan W. Lockett (fiancee Lori Smith) of Schertz TX; sister Demi Prentiss of Denton TX (husband Paul); and niece Rosa Lockett McCormick (husband Brian) and her mother Neva Lockett. Joe was predeceased by his parents Joseph L. Lockett Jr. and Susan Sanford Lockett, and brother John Sanford Lockett. The family is thankful to caregivers Melinda Rodriguez and Heidi Pinkston and to hospice at Central Texas Medical Center in San Marcos for their devoted service at the end of Joe's life.



**Friends and family are invited to a memorial service
on Saturday, April 14, at First Lutheran Church in San Marcos.**

**Memorial donations may be directed to First Lutheran Church
or to scholarships for music students at Texas State University.**