Dr. William H. Foley, Jr. died 18 October 1985 in an Arlington, Virginia hospital after a brief illness. Services were held 22 October at St. Maria Goretti Church in Arlington, and burial followed at Moore Cemetery, Arlington. A native of Providence, Rhode Island, he was appointed to the Naval Academy and graduated with the Class of 1960. He earned his master's degree in engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston in 1965 and a doctorate from Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, in 1971. At the time of his death Dr. Foley was employed by General Dynamics where he directed the design development of a unique short-takeoff-vertical-landing fighter aircraft. The aircraft’s design was featured on the July 1984 cover of Aviation Week and Space Technology. He served as Chairman of the National Technical Committee on V/STOL at the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. Mr. John Buckner, the Director of Advance Programs at General Dynamics’ Ft. Worth Division, said, “Without a doubt, Dr. Foley’s loss will be felt throughout the aeronautical community, especially in the field of V/STOL.”

Dr. Foley’s survivors include his wife, Virginia, of Arlington, and three daughters, Patricia of Chapel Hill, NC, Mary of Washington, DC, and Rebecca of Grinnell, Iowa.

SHIPMATE, January-February 1986