

## **BOBBY RAY HOLLAND**



Bobby Holland of Florence, SC, died at home on 30 November 2015. He was 79 years old.

Bobby was born in Portsmouth, VA, on 7 August 1936 to Mack and Mabel Holland. He was the devoted husband of 55 years to his high school sweetheart, the late Kay Saunders Holland.

In 1954, Bobby graduated from Portsmouth's Woodrow Wilson High and attended the Naval Academy Prep School before entering the Naval Academy in 1956. At both NAPS and USNA, Bobby was a class leader, a friend and an outstanding athlete. He was an accomplished player in Sixth Battalion football and 22nd Company basketball.

Medically discharged after Youngster Year, he earned a BS degree in industrial engineering from Virginia Tech in 1962.

Bobby retired from DuPont of Florida after 30 years.

A devoted member of Highland Park United Methodist Church, Bobby served in many capacities, throughout his 53 years of membership. He was a teacher of the, Friendship Sunday School class; and over the years, led the Administrative Board, Finance and Methodist Men committees, among others.

Bobby passed his love for sports on to local children as a coach of the Florence Recreation football, Dixie Youth baseball, Florence Family YMCA and church league basketball teams. Through his guidance as a coach and as a Big Brother, he touched the lives of many generations of youth in Florence.

Bobby also supported many civic organizations, including the "Golden K" Kiwanis Club, where he led the Elementary School Reading Club; Meals on Wheels, as a carrier; and as a proud supporter and charter member of the Florence Family YMCA.

Bobby loved spending time with his family; and in his younger years, he loved playing all types of sports, especially competitive tennis. He equally enjoyed a competitive game of bridge and cherished his friendships made through various bridge clubs.

Surviving Bobby are his children, Michael Holland (Rhonda) and Kim Bonnoitt (Norwood), both of Florence, SC; grandchildren, Courtney Coker (Joe) of Goose Creek, SC, Taylor Jane Holland of New York and Callie Bonnoitt of Florence, SC;

sister, Marjorie Balderson of Portsmouth, VA; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his wife, Kay; his parents; siblings, Aubrey Holland, Lindsey Holland, William "Buddy" Holland, Doris Hallowell and Thelma Eure; and a sister-in-law, Eloise Holland.

*Fall 1015 Shipmate*