

Porter Lewis

Commander Porter Lewis Jr., USN (Ret.), of Yarmouth Port, MA, died at his home on 17 April 2018 surrounded by his loving family.

At age 15, Porter met the love of his life, Cecile, at church. Their courtship was legendary among his fellow midshipmen, and on 11 June 1960, just three days after his graduation from the Naval Academy, they were married at Christ Church in Georgetown, Washington, DC.

He earned a Bachelor's of Science degree from the Naval Academy and a master's degree in communications from the Naval Postgraduate School.

Porter began his 25-year career in submarines, serving on both diesel attack and nuclear ballistic missile submarines. Later, he served in a variety of tours specializing in communications, including OpNav, CinCUSNavEur, and ComSubGru Two. The pinnacle of his career was serving as commanding officer of U.S. Naval Communications Station, United Kingdom, in Northern Scotland (1978-1981). He retired from naval service in 1985.

Porter then decided to be his own boss as a small business advisor, which led to his becoming an IRS Enrolled Agent and starting a successful tax preparation business. In 2001, he and Boo retired to Cape Cod, MA, where he was able to fully engage his three life-long passions - his church, painting and travel.

Porter was long time member of Christ Church Episcopal, Harwich Port, MA, where he served many roles including: vestry member, lay Eucharistic minister, senior warden and choir member. Porter also committed many years of selfless service with Samaritans as a suicide prevention hotline volunteer.

In retirement, he immersed himself in his love of painting and produced numerous works depicting landscapes from his travels, as well as images of "Cape Life." He displayed (and even sold!) many of his works at Eastwind Gallery in Chatham, MA.

Porter and Boo shared a passion for travel and enjoyed many cruises, including a once-in-a-lifetime 70-day Pacific Rim cruise. However, the highlight of their travel adventures was sharing their cruise experiences with their children and grandchildren.

Porter Lewis lived his life as God's servant with passion, energy and an abundance of love. He will be missed by his many friends and family.

He is survived by his wife, Cecile "Boo;" children, Elizabeth, Madeleine, John and Martin; his beloved standard poodle, "Sampson;" sisters, Barbara and Carol; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

July-August 2018 Shipmate