
David Alistair Neal M.D.

David Alistair Neal, M.D. Encinitas The Neal extended family fondly remembers Dave, our father, grandfather, great-grandfather, husband, and friend. Dave was born and raised in Madison, Wisconsin, the only child of Norman P. and Elizabeth Johnson Neal. He attended West High School, followed by Carleton College and later the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine. Following medical school and internship at Denver General Hospital, he served in Bermuda as a General Practitioner in the Navy during the [Vietnam War](#). There he established lifelong friendships, cared for many patients and "learned how to salute properly." Dave ultimately chose Orthopedics as his career specialty because he heard he would have to be "as strong as an ox and twice as smart." He was stationed at Camp Pendleton and later Balboa Naval Hospital in San Diego, where Dave served as the Chairman of the Orthopedic Department and eventually Chief of Staff. He also served on several aircraft carriers in the Pacific and the Mideast. He had many words of kindness and respect for his Navy colleagues and especially the nursing staff, who worked with him in caring for many marines and sailors over the [years](#). Captain Neal retired from the [U.S. Navy](#) after 21 years, which gave him more time to devote to sailboat racing, a passion refined over many years in numerous locales, most notably the San Diego Yacht Club. He enjoyed a successful racing career in mainly quarter-ton sailboats, and was a Judge for the US Sailing Association. He also served on the SDYC board during America's Cup regattas. Retirement also allowed Dave to "graduate from bones to wood," spending many satisfying years learning and excelling in woodworking, thanks in large part to Russ Filbeck and other excellent teachers at Palomar College. Dave was fortunate to have found love twice in his life; first, with former wife Susanne Price Neal, with whom he raised two wonderful children and raced sailboats for 30 years; and later, with Helen Pingrey, also a Carleton graduate, when they met again in 1997 at their 35th college reunion. Dave and Helen married two years later, and enjoyed many adventurous years together, boating, traveling, and reconnecting with former classmates. He is survived by wife Helen Pingrey Neal, former wife Susanne Price Neal, children Laura Neal and Bruce Neal (Marla Chattle), step-children Katherine (Larry) Calabro and Matthew Wanning, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. We wish to extend a special thanks to the competent, compassionate staff at Silverado Memory Care Community in Encinitas. His final years were made more peaceful and comfortable than we thought possible. We also appreciate the loving support over the years of his friend and caregiver, Allan Soriano. May there be lots of ice cream, Wisconsin cheese, orange cats and sailboats where you are now, Dad! To help find a cure for Alzheimer's Disease and other dementias, please consider a donation to the Shiley-Marcos Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at UCSD. 1940 - 2016

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