



## Norman Lord Class of 2014

Captain Norman C. Lord, USN, Retired, graduated from Oroville High School (OHS) in 1956. He participated in cross country, track, basketball and baseball, was a Block O member and senior class president. Outside of school, he was a member of De Molay, and worked at Harlan's Drug Store in Oroville and at Harter's Cannery in Yuba City during the summer before his senior year.

After graduating from OHS Norm matriculated to Chico State College (CSC) where he earned his BA degree, was a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, and was extremely active in student affairs. He was junior class president, associated student body vice-president, 1960 CSC "Man of the Year", a member of the CSC Blue Key National Honor Society, member of the debate team, co-founder of the student activity center, vice-president of the inter-fraternity council, selected "Who's Who" among students in American colleges and universities and earned an overall 3.4 grade point average. In 1969, Norm was awarded his MAT degree in International Relations from Brown University. In 1972 he graduated from a year of study at the Naval War College, Command and Staff School.

Upon earning his BA degree, Norm enlisted in the United States Navy (USN), where he served his country with distinction for 28 years, retiring with the rank of Captain in 1988. During this time he served on 3 aircraft carriers and was in 4 navy squadrons. He was selected by his Commanding Officer to be the Capsule Recovery Boat Officer for the pickup of astronaut Walter Schirra, Mercury capsule, following the "Sigma 7" flight in 1962. From 1964-66, he flew combat patrol flights in Viet Nam, then served as an Admiral's Aide on an aircraft carrier deployed to Viet Nam. From 1966-69, he was an Assistant Professor of Naval Science at Brown University and later commanded a Navy patrol squadron with 400 officers and men deployed to Japan and Alaska. His command won top awards in overall excellence, maintenance, and safety.

From 1979-82, Norm had the distinction of serving as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon in Washington D.C. During this time he also served as a member of the United States negotiating team that successfully renewed a 5 year treaty with Spain. The next 2 years saw Norm serving as Assistant Chief of Staff (training) to the Admiral in charge of all patrol Squadrons in the Pacific Fleet. From 1984-86, he commanded Recruit Training Command (Bootcamp), in Great lakes, IL, with 600 officers/men. They trained 40,000 recruits per year and the Command won top honors. Finally Norm served as Chief of Staff to the Admiral commanding Great Lakes Training Center (35,000 personnel).

Norm was highly decorated during his naval career. Among the many awards that he earned were the Legion of Merit (with Gold Star in lieu of second award), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, the Viet Nam Service Medal, the Viet Nam Campaign Medal and numerous letters of commendation for his outstanding service.

After his retirement from the USN in 1988, Norm served as senior Vice-President of Rauch & Company, a commercial real estate development company, located in Chicago, IL. His biggest accomplishment included the development of a large senior retirement project, "Atlantic Shores" in Virginia Beach, VA that is still going strong to this day.

Norm's community service record is varied and ongoing. In locations across the country he has been a Little League manager, Webelos Scout leader, member of the United Way, Red Cross, Scripps Ranch Planning Board, Fallbrook Library Board, the Fallbrook Anti-graffiti task force, a volunteer at the Fallbrook Library and a current member of the San Diego County Volunteer Sheriff's patrol.

Wherever he has lived, Norm has always been active in his church. His current pastor in Fallbrook writes, "Two words that would describe Norm's life are "outstanding" and "caring". "Norm is a dynamic man of honor, integrity, faith, character and service."

Throughout his career, Norm and his family traveled in 49 states, Asia and Europe. They lived in 8 different states, plus Japan and the Philippines. Norm says, "I have great appreciation and empathy for those now serving and for their sacrifice (and their families) of multiple deployments to combat zones in Iraq and Afghanistan, at great personal risk; many paying with their lives.

Norm has been married to his wife Dottie for over 50 years and they have 3 sons and 7 grandchildren. They currently reside in Fallbrook, CA.