



## Captain Stephen G. Kmetz Jr., U.S. Navy, ret.

October 19, 1943 - July 14, 2025

Captain Stephen George Kmetz, Jr., a naval officer and beloved family man, passed away peacefully on July 14, 2025, at the age of 81. Born on October 19, 1943, in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania to Stephen George and Pauline Supey Kmetz.

Captain, as Steve was affectionately referred to by his six grandchildren, spent his childhood in Wilkes-Barre surrounded by Supey and Kmetz relatives from both sides of his parents' families. He maintained a home in Blakeslee and always enjoyed his time spent in the Pocono Mountains. He traveled the world during his naval career and continued to do so with his beloved wife, Janet, during their retirement years.

Captain graduated in 1965 from the University of Minnesota, as a Second Lieutenant with a BA from the Department of Naval Sciences. His naval career spanned nearly three decades during which time Captain demonstrated exceptional leadership, professional ability and loyal dedication, honoring the highest traditions of United States Naval Service. Captain was a decorated officer and earned numerous honors for heroism, merit and service, including a Bronze Star Medal with Combat V, Navy Achievement Medal with Combat V, Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V with 1 Gold Star, Navy Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with 3 Stars and Meritorious Service Medal with 3

Gold Stars. Captain's military education included Naval War College Command and Staff roles as well as training related to Tomahawk Maintenance and Operation. Captain served in his final post as Commanding Officer of the Naval Weapons Station in Charleston, SC from 1988-1990 when he retired with his family in Summerville, SC.

Captain was predeceased in 2020 by his wife of 46 years, Janet Maher Kmetz, and is survived by their children: Michael M. Kmetz (Emily) of Summerville, SC, Stephen D. Kmetz (Megan) of Fort Worth, TX, and James J. Kmetz (Lynsey) of Charlotte, NC; grandchildren Amelia, Jack, Lucile, James, Madeleine and Carter; Stephen G. Kmetz, III (Laura) of St. Paul, MN and his mother Lynda Brown; sister Pauline K. Makowski of Kingston, PA.

The Kmetz family will gather for a graveside service at 10:00am on Thursday, July 17th, 2025, at Beaufort National Cemetery to celebrate Captain's life. He will be interred with full military honors at Beaufort National Cemetery in Beaufort, SC. The family wishes to extend their sincere gratitude to Lynda Brown for her compassion, care and support during Captain's final months.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Fisher House Charleston to support veterans and their families in Coastal South Carolina. <https://friendsoffisherhousecharleston.org/>

A memorial message may be written to the family by visiting [www.jamesadyal.com](http://www.jamesadyal.com). Arrangements by James A. Dyal Funeral Home, 303 South Main Street, Summerville, SC 29483 (843)873-4040.

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JUL 17. 10:00 AM (ET)

Beaufort National Cemetery  
1601 Boundary Street  
Beaufort, SC 29902

# Tribute Wall



“ My condolences to the family and friends of Stephen Kmetz, Jr. May God continue to comfort and strengthen the family during this time of bereavement. Continue to focus on the loving and cherished memories of Stephen and may they give his family and friends peace of mind. A comforting promise is stated at Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, a help that is readily found in times of distress."

Lisa - August 04, 2025 at 01:24 PM



“ Karns F. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Captain Stephen G. Kmetz Jr., U.S. Navy, ret..

Karns F. - July 16, 2025 at 02:59 PM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Captain Stephen G. Kmetz Jr., U.S. Navy, ret..



July 16, 2025 at 01:13 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Captain Stephen G. Kmetz Jr., U.S. Navy, ret..

July 15, 2025 at 05:58 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Captain Stephen G. Kmetz Jr., U.S. Navy, ret..*



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July 15, 2025 at 05:58 PM



“ *Mike, I'm so sorry to hear this sad news. My deepest condolences to you and your family during this terrible time. Susanna Wallace, NIWC*

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**Susanna Wallace** - July 15, 2025 at 04:23 PM



“ *To the Kmetz Family,*

*We are so sorry for your loss. The Captain was certainly a unique character.*

*We enjoyed the many discussions, laughs and card games during our Texas holidays at Steve and Megan's. We appreciated the Captain's worldly views and knowledge and loved his antics. He was one of a kind!*

*May all the good memories live kindly in your hearts.*

*Love,  
Judy & Ed Grelson*

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**Judy Grelson** - July 15, 2025 at 03:38 PM

EW

“ I knew Captain Kmetz from Naval Weapons Station. He was a wonderful leader, a kind person, and one who always talked with the workers in his building. May you, his family, find comfort in knowing that he was friendly and well-liked by workers at NWS. Rest in peace, Captain.

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**Emily Watts** - July 15, 2025 at 08:46 AM