



USN CDR William Keith Nesmith Ret.

January 10, 1957 - August 25, 2019

William Keith Nesmith's Obituary

William Keith Nesmith was born on January 10, 1957, in Gary, Indiana to William and Norene Nesmith. Keith, 62, passed away peacefully on August 25, 2019, at St. David's Medical Hospital alongside his wife, son, and daughter. He was married to Kathy B. Blas of Barrigada, Guam for 26 years, with whom they raised their four children: Deana, Kirtis, Cortney, whom passed away in April of 2011, and Krisee.

Keith grew up in Laporte, Indiana with his three brothers: Ed, Chad, and Bob. He graduated from Laporte High School in 1975. A month later, he enlisted in the United States Navy where he would be able to travel the world and serve his country honorably.

Keith's intelligence, perseverance, and ability to lead a team in the Navy nominated him for several awards and medals: 6 Gold Wreath Awards, 3 Silver Stars, 5 Gold Stars, Navy Commendation Medals, 35 Years of Service in the US Government Award, Regional Commander's Special Achievement Award, and 2 Meritorious Service Medals from the President of the United States, and is entitled to wear the Surface Warfare Officer's pin and Command Afloat and Ashore pin.

Throughout his life, Keith followed the call of duty wherever it took him: Florida, California, Spain, Kentucky, Guam, New Jersey, Singapore, Hawaii, and Texas. Keith served his enlisted tours aboard USS Simon Lake (AS 33), USS Saratoga (CV 60), and ashore at NAS Cecil Field, FL and NRS Ashland, KY.

He also held many honorable titles, such as Nuclear Weapons Technician, Weapons Division Lead Petty Officer, Recruiter-In-Charge, Nuclear Weapons Officer, Commanding Officer/Executive Officer, Ordnance Officer, Operations Officer, and Port Operations Officer. As the Commanding Officer of Mobile Mine Assembly Group, Eight, Guam, his command received an unprecedented 100 percent in all areas during two COMPACFLT's Mine Readiness Certification Inspections.

Upon retiring from the Navy in 2006, he devoted 10 more years to the government working in civil service. Keith was also a successful entrepreneur and spent his time creating inventions that would positively impact the world. In 2005, he received his B.S. in Business Administration and his B.S. in Information Technology and Software Engineering in 2016.

Beyond his enjoyment of tinkering with gadgets and working toward furthering his education, Keith loved watching television. If he wasn't in his office or out smoking on the patio, you could find him snuggled up with his blanket with a firm hold on his remote. He lived his remaining years in peace—stress-free and comfortable.

Mr. Nesmith is survived by his wife, Kathy; his son, Kirtis, and daughters, Deana and Krisee; his brothers, Ed, Chad, and Bob and their families; his uncle and his cousins.

Previous Events

Rosary

AUG 31. 9:30 AM (CT)

St Mary Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church
6100 Lohmans Ford Road
Lago Vista, TX 78645

Funeral Mass

AUG 31. 10:00 AM (CT)

St Mary Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church
6100 Lohmans Ford Road
Lago Vista, TX 78645

Tribute Wall



“ *USN CDR William Keith Nesmith Ret.*

October 05, 2023 at 10:58 AM



“ *USN CDR William Keith Nesmith Ret.*

October 04, 2023 at 06:25 PM



“ *USN CDR William Keith Nesmith Ret.*

September 26, 2023 at 10:57 PM

BA

“ Keith and Kathy were our sponsors at CLWP, Singapore. As my immediate boss, Keith was a great mentor and friend. His attitude was always can-do with a demeanor that was both sincere and kind. Kathy remains a good family friend and she made our transition and time spent in Singapore enjoyable for our entire family. From Singapore the Nesmith family transferred to Hawaii where Keith was assigned as Port Operations Officer. A few month’s into his new job I pranked him, calling his office number pretending to be a ‘highly perturbed Navy Captain waiting on tug boats that were delaying our departure!’ I must have pulled it off as Keith apologetically asked which pier, which ship! The prank was quickly overshadowed by a tremendous appreciation for the enormous job he was in charge of. Our last conversation I called to congratulate him upon reading a article on the oil containment boom he designed. No doubt a huge success for him and a win for the Navy. We joked that the next time he flew over us in California he would have the pilot dip the wings. Now his wings are up there, a great man with a huge soul. This picture was taken in Singapore, 2002. Fair winds, shipmate. Bill and Adel Scoggin



Bill and Adel - October 02, 2021 at 10:54 AM

KN

Thank you so much Bill for the kind words. I'm so glad that we are in contact from time to time. Yes indeed Singapore was an amazing tour for all. But most of all you and Adel are also the greatest friends. Keith was the love of my life but god needed him more. Thank you so much for posting this photo it was an honor to know everyone. God bless.....

Kathy Nesmith - May 25 at 10:51 AM

LD

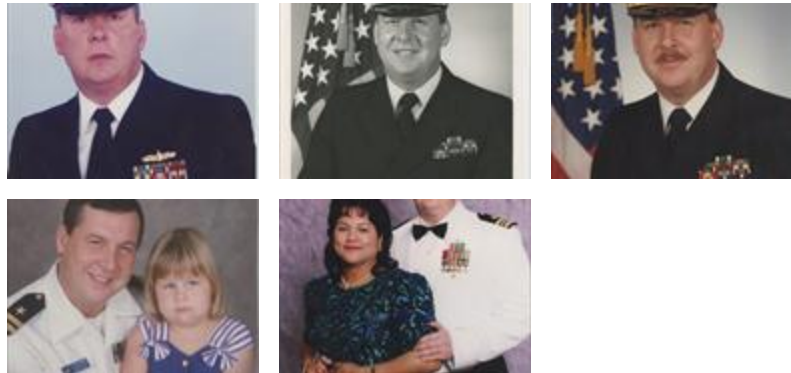
“ I was lucky enough to work with Kieth when he ran port operations in Pearl Harbor Hawaii. He was always the perfect gentleman and loved to support the navy in every way. I was able to procure mooring equipment for him and together we developed new mooring concepts for the navy that are still in service today. Kieth always put his family first and always reminded me the importance of family. I believe anyone who knew Kieth would marvel at his ability to lead by example and was blessed with superior intelligence. Rest In Peace my friend and know always you made this world a better place.

Louis DiStefano
NAVSEA PHILADELPHIA

Lou DiStefano - October 28, 2019 at 06:30 PM



“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



Affordable Burial & Cremation Service - September 02, 2019 at 01:52 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of USN CDR William Keith Nesmith Ret..*



August 29, 2019 at 08:43 PM



“ *The Bunco Ladies purchased the With Distinction for the family of USN CDR William Keith Nesmith Ret..*



The Bunco Ladies - August 29, 2019 at 01:27 PM