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Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:08 PM

Subject: Skip Anderson Update/Passing

Dear Family, Friends, and USNA 1980 Classmates,

Just received the call from Susan a few minutes ago. **Skip opened his eyes this morning about 1030 AM, saw the family, was able to say his goodbyes and went to Heaven.** It is with sadness at our loss here on earth, but with humility and joy that I have the honor to send this news that our dear friend, shipmate, husband, father, patriot, warrior, naval officer, aviator, and great American, CDR David "Skip" Anderson, JR., has slipped the surly bonds of earth for the last time and has arrived as the newest resident in Heaven.

He has made the final flight and John G Magee Jr., High Flight Poem is most appropriate.

High Flight

By John G. Magee Jr.

Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth,
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;

Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth of sun-split clouds -
and done a hundred things You have not dreamed of -
wheeled and soared and swung high in the sunlit silence.
Hovering there I've chased the shouting wind along
and flung my eager craft through footless halls of air.
"Up, up the long delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace,
where never lark, or even eagle, flew;
and, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
the high untrespassed sanctity of space,
put out my hand and touched the face of God.

[High Flight Poem John Gillespie Magee Jr. - Bing video](#)

John Gillespie Magee, Jr. (9 June 1922 – 11 December 1941) was **an American aviator and poet** who died as a result of a mid-air collision over Lincolnshire during World War II. He was serving in the Royal Canadian Air Force, which he joined before the United States officially entered the war.

Stand Down the Watch: CDR David "Skip" Anderson, JR, Retired, USN departing Earth into the skies above for the final time arriving Heaven!

The Watch

For twenty years
This sailor has stood the watch



While some of us were in our bunks at night
This sailor stood the watch

While some of us were in school learning our trade
This shipmate stood the watch

Yes.. even before some of us were born into this world
This shipmate stood the watch

In those years when the storm clouds of war were seen brewing
on the horizon of history
This shipmate stood the watch

Many times he would cast an eye ashore and see his family
standing there
Needing his guidance and help
Needing that hand to hold during those hard times
But he still stood the watch

He stood the watch for twenty years
He stood the watch so that we, our families and
Our fellow countrymen could sleep soundly in safety, Each and
every night
Knowing that a sailor stood the watch

Today we are here to say
'Shipmate... the watch stands relieved
Relieved by those You have trained ,Guided, and Led
Shipmate you stand relieved.. we have the watch..."

"Boatswain..Standby to pipe the side...Shipmate's going **to
Heaven** (Ashore).."

Skip desired to be buried at the Miramar National Cemetery, where the jets and aircraft will fly
overhead and maintain the sound of freedom! Details will follow later.

At this time of incredible loss and grieving, please continue to pray for Susan, Kate & John, Nick & Kelsey and all of the extended family. Susan and the family are very appreciative of all your prayers and offers to help in any way you can.

Sharing this photo as you remember Skip, Susan, Kate, Nick and family:

Skip and Susan were very fortunate to have the entire family there for the 4th of July and a wonderful family dinner. From left to right: Kate, Skip and Susan in the front row and Kelsey, Nick and John in the back row.

Skip and Susan send their thank you to all of you for your prayers and support!

God Bless Skip's Soul, Susan, and Family, God Bless You and God Bless America!



Sincerely,
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