

## 85/87 CLASS NEWS

well the days before the internet and social media became the normal forms of communication in our society. Back then we depended on the United States Postal Service (USPS) to send and receive information and goodies from family and friends. If you attended the Academy during the 1980s and 1990s, that meant that you depended on one man, Conrad "Moxie" Henry Heibel.



Moxie was born on 24 October 1941 in Washington D.C. the son of John L. and Naomi Sarah (Bench) Heibel. He graduated from St. Mary's High School in Annapolis, Maryland in 1960. Upon graduation he joined the Navy and served as a Navy Corpsman until May 1965. During his service he performed his duties assigned to various Marine Corps units. After leaving active duty, he married his pen-pal sweetheart of 18 months, Diane Fay Evanson on 19 June 1965 in Annapolis, MD. He initially went to work for the Annapolis Police, but after six months, he decided to work for the USPS. Moxie started working for the Annapolis Post Office in 1966 and was transferred to the USNA Post Office in 1978.

While this provides a snapshot of Moxie's life, it doesn't come close to conveying what an amazing person he was. His life was dedicated to service to the country and other people. Sure he took care of our mail, but if you ever spent time with him you knew that he was a man of exceptional character that loved this country and loved helping people, especially midshipmen. For almost all of his time at the USNA Post Office, Moxie worked by himself ensuring a smooth flow of packages both in and out for the 4,000+ brigade and staff. Moxie possessed such a positive demeanor that he established wonderful friendships with all of the other people that provided services in the Yard. This made him a cache of information to enable anyone to be successful in any

endeavor around the Yard. He could always hook you up with the right person to accomplish what you needed done. As a midshipman sponsor, Moxie, Diane, and their two sons could not have provided a warmer, more loving home to decompress from the daily stresses of the academy.

When Moxie wasn't working, he could be found spending time with one of his numerous hobbies. He was a gifted woodworker who decorated the homes and yards of loved ones with bright, beautiful bird houses and other wood crafts. Moxie was a meticulous gardener, ensuring that his friends and family enjoyed fresh produce at the table every year. When he was able to find time to break out his metal detector, no metal relic was safe from his grasp.

Moxie retired from the USNA Post Office in 1997. Upon retirement, Moxie and Diane moved to Thornton, Iowa. In Thornton, Moxie was able to spend more time with his hobbies as well as endear himself to the wonderful people in small town Iowa (Thornton population is about 400).

Moxie was 81 years old when he passed on Saturday, 4 February 2023 at MercyOne North Iowa Hospice in Mason City, Iowa. He was more than family to many and will be sorely missed.

Moxie is survived by his wife, Diane, of 57 years; two sons, Conrad Jr. and his wife Katie, and Timothy and his wife Lorraine all of Annapolis; four grandchildren Jane, Peter, Griffin and Cooper Heibel, and two brothers Joe Heibel and Richard "Dick" Heibel and his wife Mary, both of Pennsylvania.

Go Navy  
Beat Army  
VO

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Hello Classmates,

Welcome to fall and Navy football!  
I hope all of you are well and enjoying the cool weather.

### Mike Cantwell

has much to celebrate these days. His daughter, Maeve, graduated from high school in May and will be attending Villanova University in the fall. Mike recently retired from the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), where he served for over 20 years as a contractor and government employee. Classmates, Charlie Schilling and Greg Contaoi, and several other USNA alumni, attended his retirement ceremony. Mike decided after retiring to pursue his lifelong dream of starting his own consulting company. Check out LinkedIn for more information. Mike is active with various political reform organizations including FairVote Virginia, New Politics, and Veterans for Political Innovation.

In that vein, Mike has launched a podcast called, "Independents for America." Mike recently became more engaged with the USNAAA Greater Washington Chapter. He frequently participates in networking events, bike rides, and golf tournaments. Mike also hosts a monthly Trivia Night at his local VFW. See the Arlington VFW Post 3150 Facebook page for more information. DC area classmates are encouraged to attend.  
Go Navy! Beat Army!

Please send your news to rpinataro87@gmail.com with "Shipmate" in the subject line.