



Walter Charles Medhurst III

AUG 17, 1941 - MAR 18, 2023



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Walter Charles Medhurst III passed peacefully into the arms of his Savior, Jesus Christ, March 18, 2023. He was born in The Bronx, NY, August 17, 1941 and spent his formative years in Danbury, CT.

He preferred to be called Wally, a name inspired by the heft of the vintage cleaner, Big Wally. Indeed, he was an imposing man who fit perfectly in the racks of the five submarines he rode during his 23 year Navy career. He also enjoyed the handle, "Bullsnipe," code for one who works below the decks of a ship. Without a doubt, he was in his element manipulating valves in a hot, lonely engine room with cup of Joe in hand. But, most notably, he was saluted as "Master Chief."

Wally was truly a Man for all Seasons. Armed with an advanced degree in business and a mechanical mind, he had three successful careers in the U.S. Navy, Pacific Gas & Electric, and Marion County FL Building Department. He was a jack of all trades and a master of all. There was nothing he couldn't fix or a problem he couldn't solve. His real passion was cars. Since a young man, he breathed life into many a neglected vehicle. His last projects were his finest. He restored his 1949 Studebaker truck into a modern electronic miracle wrapped in a creamy pallet with charcoal accents. But, his piece de resistance was his transformation of the plain blue '86 Cutlass with T-tops into a hot Hurst Olds with more style and gumption than the original Hurst model.

He will remain forever in the hearts of his wife and soulmate, Paulette; his daughters, Wendy, Debbie, Mechelle, and Becky, as well as his former wife, Alexandria, and of course, his stepchildren, Allan and Alexandra.

"Eternal Father, strong to save...Oh Father hear an humble prayer...Thus evermore shall rise to Thee, Glad hymns of praise from land and sea! Amen."



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Hal M. Rickert posted:

Walter C. Medhurst III will be missed. Big Wally had a profound effect on me. He was my boss on my first submarine duty, and I admired him. One incident involving Master Chief that I have told many times, and will tell many times more, makes me chuckle now, but not at the time! He was describing to me how tight he wanted a particular very large bolt, and he did it in graphic detail. I will substitute cuss words as he shouted at full volume and full height. Big Wally: "SPOT TORQUE THAT SOB" me: "What do you mean 'spot torque' Master Chief?" Big Wally: "YOU FIND THE BIGGEST %@# WRENCH WE HAVE AND THEN FIND THE BIGGEST CHUNK OF PIPE YOU CAN FIT ON THAT WRENCH TO USE IT AS A CHEATER. YOU GRAB AHOLD OF THAT PIPE, PUT YOUR FEET AGAINST THE BULKHEAD AND YOU PULL ON THAT %\$^&# UNTIL YOU SEE SPOTS!" It impressed me! I will always remember the the term. Fair Winds Master Chief. H. M. Rickert former MM1(SS)

June 6 at 8:50 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Walter by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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