

VAN FLEET, Bernard James ("Pete") LCDR (Ret'd) - (1928 - 2014) Age: 85



VAN FLEET, Bernard J. "Pete"

LCdr. RCN (Retired)

Wednesday May 21, 2014 at the age of 85. Beloved husband of 61 years to

Shirley. Loving Father of Christine (James), Christopher, Neale (Lee), and Phillip and Alexander. Proud grandfather of Kenneth, Thaine, Sadie (Andy), Neale (Raffi), Nathan and 5 great-grandchildren. Bernard led a varied life. He started work at the age of 12 during [WWII](#) for the war effort. After the unfortunate death of his father after the war he joined the RCN where he served in the Fleet Air Arm and then later as a surface officer and learned the values of dedication and loyalty which guided him the rest of his life. After his retirement from the Navy he worked in the civilian sector but his career revolved around projects like the Canadian Patrol Frigate Program, specifically ensuring Canadian companies and regions receiving industrial benefits from the project. During this time he also worked tirelessly on behalf of autistic children to get recognitions of the condition, a proper education and good living conditions. He ended his working career as a consultant. His personal credo was duty and honour, but above all else duty. Friends are invited to assemble at Beechwood Funeral, Cemetery & Cremation Services, 280 Beechwood Ave. (east of Vanier Parkway) Ottawa, Friday, May 30 after 2 p.m. A Graveside Service will be held in the National Military Cemetery of The Canadian Forces at 3 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Autism Society of Ontario Ottawa Chapter, 211 Bronson Ave Ottawa, ON K1R 6H - See more at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/ottawacitizen/obituary.aspx?n=bernard-van-fleet&pid=171116515#sthash.XsFk5nha.dpuf>

(Short Service Appointment 09/02/1951), He was appointed as a Midshipman (SSA) RCN (With seniority dated 09/02/1951). He served in HMCS Ontario for Sea Training 1951. He served in RNAS Donbristle for Training 1951. He served in RNAS Daedalus for Training 1951. He served in RNAS St. Merryn for Training 1952, Awarded Observer Wings 23/07/1952. He was appointed as an A/Sub-Lieutenant (O) (SSA) RCN (With seniority dated 25/07/1952). He served in HMCS Shearwater for VS-880 as Air Observer 1952. He was appointed as a Sub-Lieutenant (O) RCN (With seniority dated 25/07/1952). He served in USNAS Breezy Point for AEW Training 1953. He served in HMCS Shearwater & HMCS Magnificent for VS-881 Squadron 1953. He was appointed as a Lieutenant (O) RCN (With seniority dated 25/07/1954). He served in VS-881 (AEW) Squadron as Officer-in-Charge 1955. He served in NDHQ as Assistant Staff Officer Operations 1956. He served in HMCS Stadacona for Junior Officer Technical and Leadership Courses 1958. He served in HMCS La Hullose as TAS Officer 1959. He served in HMCS Lauzon as Operations Officer 1960. He served in HMCS Haida as Operations Officer and as Navigation Officer 1961. He was appointed as a Lieutenant-Commander RCN (With seniority dated 25/07/1962). **He served in HMCS Cornwallis as Senior Instructor at Leadership School and as OIC UNTD Cadets 1962.** He served in HMCS Restigouche as Executive Officer 1964. He served in HMCS Patriot as Staff Officer Operations 1965. He served in USNAS Dam Neck VA for USN Fleet Programming Centre Tactical Programmers Course 1967. He served in HMCS Patriot for HMCS Bras d'Or Computer Programming at Westinghouse

Canada 1967, NDHQ for CCS-280 Tactical Programming LINK II 1968, NDHQ as Staff Officer Command and Control Systems 1971. (He was retired 23/06/1973.) (He was qualified as an air observer.)

After his naval service he joined Litton Systems Canada as Manager Naval Combat Systems 1972-76. He served in UNISYS Canada as Director of Marketing and Industrial Regional Benefits. He served in Canadian Patrol Frigate and EH-101 Sea King Replacement Projects. (He was retired 01/12/1991.)



Lieutenant-Commander B.J. Van Fleet

Most of the cadets in second and third years had met our OIC prior to this summer. Lcdr. Van Fleet has just completed an appointment in Leadership School at Cornwallis. It was with a little apprehension that most cadets greeted the announcement. However, his affinity for skylarks quickly made him an acceptable choice.

Trained by the Royal Navy as an observer, Lcdr. Van Fleet came to Cornwallis after a succession of appointments to the air arm of Shearwater and Magnificent. Recently, he was appointed to *HMCS Restigouche* as the new executive officer. We wish him every success.

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OFFICER IN CHARGE'S MESSAGE

Today is the culminating event in our Summer Training programme. Within the limits of our capacity, everything has been done to adequately train the Cadets for their roles as future officers of the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve.

The measure of success attained is not difficult to judge. True, one can say that the discipline, morale and efficiency of the Cadets was satisfactory during the summer of 1964. One can also say that the administration of the same four hundred Cadets encountered few difficulties and a great number of lessons were learned. All of this is a result of the co-operation, endeavour, and loyalty of the UNTD staff, the CORNWALLIS staff and the Cadets themselves.

However, the real success of the UNTD may not manifest itself for several years. We see before us today young gentlemen from every corner of Canada, every ethnic group and every religious and political persuasion. In a few years these same gentlemen will be guiding the destiny of our country. It will be this group, and other groups to which we will look for leadership.

In this, our 21st Anniversary, it is well to re-affirm our basic concern and aim. These are of course the "advancement of the Naval Service and the development of the individual". The principles taught here, and it is hoped learned, are as applicable to the civilian side of our society as they are to the Naval. The simple, though vital, virtues of integrity, loyalty, sense of duty and consideration for subordinates are beacons of truth that have been taught and, it is hoped, exemplified by the officers and men who have guided the Cadets.

If one could give these intelligent and energetic young men a position line to fit themselves in our society it would be "Remember well your responsibilities to your country, your fellow man and yourselves. In all you say do and then show integrity and a sense of duty".

B. J. VAN FLEET
Lieutenant-Commander CD.,RCN.

Distribution: General