



## In Memoriam

AITKEN, Francis Kenneth (Ken) (1942 - 2001) Age: 58

UNTD DONNACONA 1959 U-798

"After a brief illness, April 19, 2001 in St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Houston, Texas, at the age of fifty-eight. Ken was the first of six children born to the late Donald Alexis and Eleanor Elizabeth (Somerville) Aitken of Rosemere, Quebec. Ken is survived by his beloved daughters, Debbie (Dave) Clasen of Chicago, and Heather Wilson of Philadelphia. Also, brothers Doug and Paul (Wendy) and sister Marilyn (David) of Montreal, brother Donald (Debra) of San Diego, Calif., and Peter (Anna) of Sydney, Australia. Ken was also an uncle to many nephews and nieces. Ken received his BSc. in Geology from Loyola of Montreal, a Ph.D in Mineralogy and Petrology from Penn State University, and went on to be one of the early "moon rock" specialists with NASA in Houston. Ken was an avid scuba diver and pursued a special interest in underwater photography. Having worked for three major oil companies and IBM, Ken was, more recently, a computer instructor and Internet consultant. A funeral service was held on April 23, 2001 in Houston. A memorial service will be held in Montreal at a later date, for Ken's family and friends."

Ken had 3 UNTD summers; '60, '61, '62. He was almost certainly Commissioned as a SLT in 1963, but does not appear in the 1965 Cdn Navy List.

The reference to working on moon rocks is very interesting. In 1969 he was in the first group of Scientists taken on at the Lunar and Planetary Institute in Houston, which had been formed only a year earlier by President Lyndon Johnson.

By 1973 he was with the Department of Geology at Rice University in Houston and co-authored "The Development of Microcrater Populations On Lunar Rocks."

In 1985 he was with Pennzoil Co. and was an early member of the Houston Geological Society, developing software for them. In 1999 he received the HGS Distinguished Service Award.

He was later the Principal of Aitken and Associates, Sugar Land, TX who were Geological Computer Consultants specializing in Visual Basic, Windows Help, MS Access, and HTML specialized training and consultation in Effective Presentation Graphics.

Also interestingly one of his daughters, Heather, a Registered Nurse in Pennsylvania, and an avid Republican, declared in 2015 that she was going to run for the Presidency in 2016. Clearly she didn't but I wonder how she'd be doing now against the Donald.

WAC  
November 29, 2017