

(I've added a brief eulogy written by Mike sent to me by his daughter Charity. I have also added his birth date.)

Obituary for Mike Dotten (Copied from the Funeral Home web page)

Michael Papa Mike Dotten - SONORA, CA - Michael Papa Mike Dotten, 75, of Sonora, CA, passed away on Wednesday, August 10, 2016 at Landmark Hospital. Mike was born October 15, 1940 in Detroit, MI to the late Thomas A. & Lelia Adelaide Walker. He was raised in Greensboro, NC by his mom and adopted father, Herb Dotten. He served his country aboard the USS Bugara submarine in the U.S. Navy and often said he had more fun than he deserved. He ran a Volkswagon repair shop, Sonshine Garage, in Tuolumne County, and was the former owner/operator of Alltech Petroleum. He was very involved with his local churches, and his faith was a crucial and integral part of his life. He loved people, enjoyed fishing and was a devoted husband, dad, and grandfather. Survivors include his wife, Sherri Dotten; two daughters and a son-in-law, Chara Shopp, Charity & Thomas Miles; grandchildren, Rebekah, Ruthie, Ray Michael, Declan, and Cullen, and his brother, John Dotten.

The memorial service will be on Sunday, August 14th at 4:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Pooler located at 1115 U.S. Hwy. 80 East, Pooler, GA. - See more at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/savannah/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=181054127#sthash.LpbwvcFq.dpuf>

Friends may sign the online register book at www.stricklandandsonsfuneralhome.com Thomas C. Strickland & Sons Funeral Homes West Chatham Chapel 901 W. Hwy. 80 Pooler, GA 31322 912-748-2444 Savannah Morning News August 12, 2016 Please sign our Obituary Guest Book at savannahnow.com/obituaries - See more at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/savannah/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=181054127#sthash.LpbwvcFq.dpuf>

From his daughter Charity's email to me:

We loved hearing his stories about his "sub days" and know it meant a lot to be able to come to the reunion several years ago. He loved y'all very much. Please let me know if there is any information you need.

Additional information from Charity.

She sent the below written by Mike. It's information regarding his Navy carrier.

Michael A. "Mike" Dotten ET2 (SS) October 15, 1940, August 10, 2016
USS Stonewall Jackson (SSBN-634) Blue Crew 1963-1965 (Commissioning).

Mike entered the Navy just after Christmas 1960, and was in Company 001 of 1961 at the San Diego NTC. After boot camp he reported to ET "A" school at Treasure Island, San Francisco. He still corresponds with friends from those days.

After "A" school he followed the familiar path for so many in those days. It was boot camp, "A" school, and then off to Sub School in New London. Graduating in the fall of 1962, he left the chilly weather of the Northeast for San Diego via Route 66 in his newly-acquired 1957 Chevy convertible.

Mike qualified on the USS Bugara (SS-331) operating out of San Diego in 1962 and attended NAVAIDS school in Dam Neck, VA. The old '57 made way for a new '63 Impala SS 327 4-speed. He did like his cars.

Mike served in the Nav ET gang. He was one of the first crew members to report aboard and “put her in the water”. He rode through sea trials, shakedown, and the post-shakedown upkeep.

After release from the Navy due to a respiratory condition, he returned to school at Southern Illinois University. Spoiled by California weather, he soon moved back to San Francisco where he worked for IBM for several years.

In 1972 Mike moved to rural Sonora California and married Sherri, the love of his life. He became a born again believer in Jesus Christ in 1974 and proceeded to raise a family in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains.

He is survived by his wife Sherri, two daughters, (Chara and Charity) and five grandchildren: Rebekah, Ruthie, Declan, Ray, and Cullen.

Other information I have put together:

Mike passed from complications of a brain tumor. From the emails received he fought this for about 2-years. During that time he had various treatments and operations, but his emails were always upbeat and positive.

He was a plank-owner on the Stonewall Jackson (SSBN 634) Blue Crew and served from 1963 to 1965 as an ET2(SS) in the Navigation Department. He also served in USS Baya (AGSS 318), and USS Bugara (SS 331) prior to serving on the Jackson.

I didn't serve with Mike, but met him at a reunion. He was a great guy and very interesting to talk to, and he had fond memories of his time on the Jackson. I'm sure he was a valuable shipmate.

Sailor, rest your oar.