

Captain Ross A. Word USN (Ret), age 71, passed away Monday, June 4, 2018 at his residence.

Born May 2, 1947 in Honolulu, HI, he was the son of the late Colonel William E. Word, USMC (ret) and late Thalia Hettama Word. Mr. Word proudly served his country in the US Navy and was a Veteran of the Vietnam War. He served 25 years as a Combat Vet. He was awarded 5 Air Medals, 3 Navy Commendations with combat, and a Distinguished Flying Cross, also earned in combat. Following his retirement, he worked as an instructor with Horry County Schools NJROTC as an SNSI (Senior Naval Science Instructor) for 20 years. Mr. Word was a member of the Masonic Conway Lodge No. 65.

Surviving are his wife of 33 years, Susan Greenhalgh Word of Conway; two sons, Stephen Word of Phoenix, AZ and William Word of Myrtle Beach; four daughters, Leah Word Peterson of Hudson, OH, Julia Word Casper of San Antonio, TX, Jacqueline Word Neumann of Wake Forest, NC, Thalia Word of Roanoke, VA; six grandchildren; in laws, Captain William and Dianne Greenhalgh of Myrtle Beach; one brother, Kenneth Word of Honolulu, HI; and two sisters, Leslie Bateman of Tacoma, WA and Sydney Beckett of Eureka, CA. Captain Word was a vital member of the Grand Strand Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, not only serving as its President but also reviving it from a dormant state, initiating our growth into the thriving organization it is today.