



# CAL MARITIME

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CAPT. BRUCE JOHNSTON, USNR (Ret.)**

(Vallejo, CA – May 24, 2007)... The California Maritime Academy family was deeply saddened to learn of the death May 24th of Capt. Bruce Johnston, USNR (Ret.). Capt. Johnston was a 1948 graduate of the Academy and served the institution in numerous capacities during his long and distinguished career, including as Chairman of its Board of Governors from 1984 to 1995. Johnston's tenure as Chairman helped guide the Maritime Academy at one of the most challenging periods of its 75-year-plus history - the transition to membership in The California State University system, and the selection of Mary Lyons as the institution's first woman President.

Academy President William B. Eisenhardt stated, "I know I speak for all who knew Capt. Johnston in stating that his love of, and commitment to this institution underscored everything he did on our behalf. I turned to him many times for his wise advice and counsel, as did my predecessors, Jerry Aspland and Mary Lyons. His experience, his dedication and his love of the Academy were an invaluable asset and we shall miss him deeply."

After his graduation in 1948, Johnston worked for Coastwise Lines. In 1951 he was called to active duty with the U.S. Navy in the Korean conflict. In 1953, he retired from active service but stayed active for much of the rest of his life in the Naval Reserve program, including five command billets, teaching assignments at war colleges, and as liaison officer to the California National Guard headquarters, where he earned two Meritorious Service medals and a Meritorious Unit citation.

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Capt. Johnston was an active recruiter for Cal Maritime throughout his career and followed the school's affairs closely. He also served for much of his working career as Vice President with A. Teichart and Son, a contracting and construction materials company, and participated in numerous professional, business and civic organizations including the Auburn Gold Country Rotary, Navy League, and the Sutter Club. In 1983 he was appointed by California Governor George Deukmejian to the Academy's Board of Governors and was named as Chairman the following year.

In 1990, Johnston and his wife Sue honored the Academy by creating a living trust provision for the school in their wills, establishing a charitable gift annuity. "The annuity is our way of saying thank you, and of helping the school when funds are so needed," they said at the time of the donation.

In 2003, Capt. Johnston was selected as one of the first recipients of The California Maritime Academy Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award. Upon learning of the honor he said, "I am most appreciative and honored. I...credit much of my success and recognition to my...years at the Academy."

Capt. Bruce Johnston is survived by his wife Susan and two children, Joell and Mark, Mark's wife Diane, six grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. The family has requested that in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the Captain Bruce T. and Susan Johnston Endowment, c/o The California Maritime Academy Foundation, 200 Maritime Academy Drive, Vallejo, CA 94590.

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