



# Paul D. Trombley

MAY 18, 1961 - FEB 27, 2016



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5



## **Paul D. Trombley**

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**P**aul Trombley, ever the brave warrior, fought fiercely yet somehow peacefully in his battle with cancer. He passed away quietly in his sleep on February 27, 2016 after a wonderful celebration with family and friends honoring his nine years strong in sobriety with the help of Alcoholics Anonymous. Paul was born in Champagne-Urbana Illinois to Lawrence and Linda Trombley on May 18, 1961. He loved sports and knew early he would serve his country on the ocean, serving first as a local Sea Scout Explorer in Pittsburg, Calif. After graduating from Ygnacio Valley High School in 1979, Paul then joined the United States Navy on September 1, 1979. He served his country for 24 years, serving mostly on nuclear and fast attack submarines and the Deep Submergence Unit. He retired from the Navy in 2003 as a Chief Petty Officer with highest honors. In 2007 Paul embraced two landmark transitions in his life. He embraced sobriety and became an active and proud member of AA. Over time he became a beacon of light showing the way for others on their path to recovery. His favorite saying to newcomers was “You feel that sense of impending doom? You know what that is? It’s impending doom! Now what are you going to do about it?” It was also in 2007 that he was offered and accepted a position with Magpie Enterprises Inc. as their facilities manager and facilities safety officer, essentially doing the same work he engaged in with the Navy, but in the private sector. Upon learning of his illness, Paul reluctantly retired from his position last January. Paul had many interests and proved good at everything he tackled. As he would say, he was a “been there, done that kind of guy.” From SCUBA diving and packing horses into mountains for fishing trips, to ocean kayaking with Orca, his adventures were numerous. Eventually he developed a passion for horology, focusing much of his time on fixing pocket watches. He leaves behind many people who will always love him. People who, over the last few weeks and months tried to put on brave faces and bring him the sunshine, rainbows, unicorns, and laughs he



## Obituary

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requested. Remember his service to our country. Remember his wise words teaching us to find our right paths and helping us make right choices. Honor him by remembering his sense of humor, his love for his family, friends and every animal he ever met. Remember the good times and fun memories. Remember the many laughs we have each had with him. Keep his memory alive by telling stories about him and telling the jokes he told us. Remember to pass forward his wise words to others in need. He was, and forever will be, a man well-loved and revered.



## Tribute Wall

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KE

**Kevin Mcinroy-Edwards** posted:

It has taken me 8 years to post my memories of Paul. I am still dealing with this loss. We were best of friends at NPTU Idaho Falls. Roommates and constant companions. So many great memories. Riding our motorcycles all over Idaho, even to California. Thank you Paul for your deep friendship.

May 6 at 1:04 PM

LC

**Laird Cummings** posted:

I knew Paul from my days on the USS Richard B. Russell (SSN 687). He was one of the very best; a man you could rely upon, and trust to know exactly what was going on, and how to get things done. He was an example to all of us.

April 13 at 7:22 AM

JD

**John Durazo** posted:

Paul is a great guy, he was always willing to help you with anything and always had some great stories about his life. We will miss him in the culde sac neighborhood. Rest in peace my friend.

March 5 at 8:20 AM

MC

**Mike Chaisson** posted:

Paul treated me as a friend and shipmate before I earned it. He was willing to be the first to smile the first to help and the last to leave. Looking back I think I was happy to work with him because he invested in the people around him. Paul and served together on the 687.

March 5 at 8:06 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Paul by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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