



Edmund James Borinski

NOV 1, 1922 - JAN 31, 2016



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Born on November 1st, 1922 in West Point, VA, to Walter and Mary Borinski, Edmund “Ed” Borinski was the sixth of eleven children. Residing in a small, rural, southern town during the Great Depression the family survived by subsistence farming, trapping, and occasionally making and selling moonshine. Edmund became proficient in all three. Edmund enlisted into the US Navy in 1942, being one of six Borinski boys serving in the Armed Forces simultaneously during WWII. Ed initially served as a Seaman Gunner, escorting merchant “Liberty Ships” across the Atlantic with war supplies. He was awarded the bronze star for action resulting in the sinking of a German U-Boat in 1943. In 1946 Edmund transferred into the “Seabees”; the construction force of the USN. It was here he acquired his skills as an all around tradesman, ultimately specializing in carpentry. His service in the Seabees took Ed all over the world. His most prestigious posting being at Camp David, Maryland where he served closely under then President Dwight D. Eisenhower. It was during his time in the navy, while on liberty in San Diego, CA, Edmund met his bride of 44 years, Josephine Duenas. Retiring in San Diego in 1961 at the rank of Chief Petty Officer, Edmund began his second career with the University of California – La Jolla. Working in the carpentry shop, Ed ultimately advanced to become Shop Foreman. He retired from the University in 1982. Edmund spent the rest of his life enjoying retirement to the fullest, centered on time spent with family and friends. Activities included yearly trips to his hometown, fishing, having morning coffee with his Navy pals, actively participating in the lives of his two Granddaughters as they grew into adults, and most recently relishing in the joy of his Great Grandson. He remained both physically and mentally active right up until the very last moments of his life. Known by many nicknames; “Chief”, “Ski”, “Uncle Ed”, and his favorite, “Grandpa Ed”, Edmund will always be remembered for his even disposition, positive attitude, quick wit, bright smile and humorous and flirtatious nature. Most importantly



Obituary

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though for the love, caring and generosity he continually bestowed upon his immediate family and those closest to him. Edmund died very suddenly from natural causes on Sunday, January 31st, 2016. Edmund was predeceased in death by his wife Josephine; his brothers Joseph, Walter, William, Theodore, John, and Jacob; his sisters Rose, Veronica and Wanda. He is survived by his sisters Virginia and Helen; son Donald, adopted son William, Granddaughters Sandra and Lindsay; and his Great Grandson Cade.



Tribute Wall

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JB

Jack Borinski posted:

As a kid I thought of Uncle Ed as a little wild and mischievous but as I grew to know him better I discovered he was more adventuresome, outspoken and didn't back down for anyone or anything. As time went on I enjoyed his company, adventure stories, his personality and most admired his dedication and loyal service to this country, which he loved so much. When I came back from Vietnam Uncle Ed, Josephine and Donnie were the first family I had seen after a year of deployment. His family welcomed me home with open arms and understood what serving in the military was all about. I was lucky enough to spend several days with them and they showed me all around San Diego and even let Donnie be my guide on some excursions. Plus my family visited Uncle Ed and we always had a great time picking grapefruit and oranges in his yard. From that time forward I got to know and appreciate all of my aunts and uncles a lot better as they began to get together on more occasions and reminisce about the rough times they had growing up. In later years, Uncle Ed would fly in from California and Uncle Theodore would drive up from Florida each year to visit with the family. They loved fishing together and I can just vision them now sitting in a jon boat telling the same old stories and just having a grand old time. We always enjoyed their company and will miss them in our everyday lives. Our love goes out to the Edmond Borinski family. Uncle Ed, we'll miss you. Jack and Pat and Family...

February 7 at 7:52 AM

LS

Larry Smith posted:

Ed Borinski known to our family as "Donnie's Dad " has been an inspiration to us since our first meeting . A true gentleman ,true American ,great friend ,and Super Dad. He will be missed by all whom have had the good fortune to know him. With our LOVE ! Barb's Mom&Dad Larry &Bebe Smith

February 6 at 1:05 PM

RB

Rob Borinski posted:

One of my earliest kid memories of my Uncle Ed was when he drove my family around Camp David to see where he had been leading a renovations team. I felt very special to be invited, and really proud of Uncle Ed. Uncle Ed was also amazingly helpful to my father,Theo, for his entire lifetime. Uncle Ed's remarkable patience & problem solving skills were a blessing to many people, Theo included. When Theo died, Uncle Ed spent time with me to listen, to help me with my sadness, and to offer his help. His love and caring helped me through a difficult time. I am sure that I am one of many who feel grateful to Uncle Ed, and who know from experience what a positive & joyful blessing he was. May Donald and his family gather comfort from their treasure of loving & happy memories of Ed. May they feel the Lord's loving presence, as Ed surely does now. Rob Borinski, nephew.

February 6 at 10:44 AM



Tribute Wall

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TO

Toni posted:

Uncle Ed was a true man. I use the word "was" with reluctance because he will always live on in our hearts. His personality was so magnetic. He entered a room not wanting attention but always receiving it because everyone wanted to be near to see his wonderful smile, hear his joyous laughter and wit, and to engage in conversation. As a child watching my uncle as he did odd jobs for my grandmother and helping out wherever needed, I was reminded of John Wayne. His demeanor, his swagger, his gentle manner left an impression upon me to this day. The simple things in life meant more to him than the fancy or extravagant. What he enjoyed most on his visits to the east coast were home cooking, good conversation, good cards games, fishing, cold beer, and an occasional glass of wine. He always wanted to pitch in with chores to "earn his keep", as he would say, while visiting. I not only lost an uncle with his passing, I lost a dear friend, drinking partner and fishing buddy. I will greatly miss him and will keep the memories of him ever close. Condolences to you Don, Barb, and your family. I know the loss you are experiencing. -Wayne I wanted to share my thoughts as well and much of what I want to say is expressed above. I know Wayne had a special connection with uncle Ed and I had the joy of being a part of that relationship. I was welcomed into the circle as a drinking partner and loved the times spent in the cool of mom's garage drinking beer and laughing and reminiscing. I'm so grateful to have played a part in his 90th birthday celebration. It was a chance to give back to someone who has given so much and to show him just how much he was (is) loved. I will miss his bear hugs, his flirtatious winks, his huge smile, his laughter, his love of life, the way he lit up a room when he entered, his positive attitude.... I could go on and on. I will miss him dearly. Love and hugs to you Don and Barbie and to your family. -Toni

February 4 at 12:34 PM

MF

Muriel Fudala posted:

Uncle Ed was an enthusiast for life. He had a spirit of fun, a great sense of humor, an easy laugh, and a positive attitude. He believed in the value of family and loyalty to home. He made the trip across country every year to West Point, Virginia with his brother, Theodore Borinski, to re-unite with other family members. He served our country with honor and was proud of his service. Ed was a wonderful person, and we will all miss him. Love and Comfort to his son Don and all his family, Muriel Fudala Niece

February 4 at 3:34 PM



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Bernie Updike posted:

I only met Mr B. once, and that was about 20 years ago. He made an impression and I remember that meeting to this day! I've known his son, Don, for 30 years..... The kind of man Don became is a living testimony to the kind of man Ed Borinski was... He will be missed by many, yet the lucky few who have had the privilege of him helping to form their lives, will reflect on how lucky they were. Fair winds and following seas, Mr. Borinski...!

February 4 at 12:34 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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