



## **RADM (Ret) John D. McCubbin**

Admiral McCubbin attended North Texas Agricultural College (NTAC) from 1932-1934 and is honored for his long and distinguished military career in the U. S. Coast Guard.

Admiral McCubbin is from Dallas where he attended Sunset High School and was a member of the Junior Reserves Officers Training Corps for four years. During his years at North Texas Agricultural College, he served as Cadet Captain and Company Commander within the Corps of Cadets. Upon graduation from North Texas Agricultural College, he took the nationwide examination for the Coast Guard Academy and was accepted in August 1935. In May 1939, he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering and was commissioned an Ensign and assigned to the USCG Cutter Taney, home ported in Honolulu, Hawaii, but operating in the Central and West Pacific.

In December 1941, Admiral McCubbin was accepted for flight training at the Pensacola Naval Air Station. Upon completion of his pilot training he had various assignments as an anti-submarine warfare pilot. He was then assigned to the search and rescue agency under the Joints Chief of Staff. While there he assisted in the development of the U. S. position for both the Provisional and Permanent International Civil Aviation organization and traveled as a technical advisor to the U. S. Delegate to Regional Air Navigation meetings.

Subsequent assignments have included: pilot, search and rescue (SAR) and administration in support of CCGD 13 and CCGD 17; Commanding Officer/Pilot of SAR and Administration in support of CCGD 17 in Juneau, Alaska; Executive Officer for SAR and Administration CCGD 14 in Honolulu, Hawaii; Assistant Chief of Aviation Division/VIP Pilot, Coast Guard Headquarters; Operations Officer (Western Area-Pacific) for Commander, Western Area, San Francisco,

California; Operations Officer and Chief of Staff for Commander, 17 Coast Guard District in Juneau, Alaska. It was while in this last assignment that Admiral McCubbin was selected for flag rank and promoted to Rear Admiral. He was then assigned as Chief, Office of Reserve on the staff of the Commandant, Washington, D.C.

In May 1971, Admiral McCubbin was assigned as Commander, 8th Coast Guard District, New Orleans, Louisiana, which included most of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama in addition to the Florida Panhandle and New Mexico. He was responsible for the marine safety on the confluence of the intercostals waterway, the inland waterways of the Mississippi Basin and the waters of much off the Gulf of Mexico.

On June 30 1973, Admiral McCubbin retired after more than 45 years in uniform, 34 of which was commissioned service. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Air Medal, American Defense Service Medal with clasp, American Theater Medal, European/African Theater Medal, World War II Victory Medal, National Defense Service Medal, USCG Expert Rifle Medal, USCG Expert Pistol Medal, and the Command Sea Badge.

Admiral McCubbin's dedicated and exemplary service to his country bring great credit to himself, The University of Texas at Arlington and the U. S. Coast Guard.

## Obituary

RADM John D. McCubbin, USCG (Ret), John, age 94, passed away peacefully November 3, 2008, at his home in Steilacoom, WA. Born in Wichita, KS, John was raised in Dallas, TX. After graduating from the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1939, he served as an Ensign aboard the USCG Cutter *Taney* in Honolulu, HI. In 1942, after completing naval flight training at Pensacola, FL, he was assigned to anti-submarine warfare duty, flying out of Greenland during WWII.

He served in operational and command positions in search and rescue at Port Angeles, WA; Elizabeth City, NC; Kodiak, AK; Barbers Point, HI; San Francisco, CA; and Washington, DC. While serving as Chief of Staff for the 17th Coast Guard District in Juneau, AK, he was promoted to Rear Admiral in 1969. He was then assigned as Chief, Office of Reserve for the Coast Guard in Washington, DC, receiving honors as Minute Man of the Year by the Reserve Officers Association. His final assignment was Commander, 8th Coast Guard District, New Orleans, LA.

On June 30, 1973, Admiral McCubbin retired after more than 45 years in uniform, including 34 years of commissioned service. His many personal decorations include the Legion of Merit and Air Medals. Admiral McCubbin was much admired by servicemen of all ranks. An extremely generous and kind man, he was highly regarded for his integrity, devotion to duty, and outstanding strength of character. A man loved by all who knew him, especially his family, he will be dearly missed. As he often said, "I've had a good life, thanks to the people who helped me."

John was preceded in death by Margaret Budd of Summit, NJ, his wife of 48 years. He is survived by his wife, Mary Frances; children John D. McCubbin, Jr., of San Francisco, CA, and Sandy (Richard) Sander of Seattle, WA; sisters June Wergin of San Antonio, TX, and Margaret McCubbin of Sacramento, CA; and granddaughters Christina and Katherine Sander.

A celebration of John's life will be held at Little Church on the Prairie, 6310 Motor Ave. SW, Lakewood, WA, on Friday, November 21, at 11:00 a.m. Burial with full military honors will follow at Arlington National Cemetery next year. Remembrances are suggested for the USCG Academy Alumni Assn., 47 Mohegan Ave., New London, CT 06320; CG Aviation Assn. (Pterodactyls), PO Box 222905, Chantilly, VA 20153; or Little Church on the Prairie, Lakewood, WA.