

Burton C. Quist

Colonel Burton C. Quist, USMC (Ret.), died of cancer on January 25, 2023 at his home in Middletown, R.I. Born August 7, 1946, in Worcester, MA to Charles and Elizabeth (Martin) Quist, Burt was raised in West Boylston and attended West Boylston high school.

At Dartmouth, Burt majored in history, served in Naval ROTC, led a freshman trip, and was a rifle team member. He earned M.A. degrees from Wesleyan (teaching) and University of Pennsylvania (international relations). Burt's life was characterized by his dedication to service of his country and community. Commissioned a Marine in 1969, he followed a tradition begun by his ancestor Ephraim Chenery during the Revolutionary War and continued by his father and father-in-law, who served with the Marines at Guadalcanal and New Britain in World War II. Burt served with great distinction and retired from active service in 1996 after various deployments and assignments, including teaching at the Naval War College. He met his wife Cathy at a First Marine Division reunion.

Burt's contributions to family, the college, the military, and his community are too numerous to detail. Suffice to say Burt's life was one of service that answered the question he often posed to his sons when they were young, "What have you done for God and country today?"

Burt is survived by his wife Catherine (Swallow) Quist, his children Lieutenant Col. Erik C.C. Quist (USMC) (Elizabeth), Major Carl A. Quist (USMC) (Angela), brother Steven (Wanda), grandchildren, extended family, and many friends.