

**8. Captain Stephen Clair Belechak, USN 12/15/1978 – 3/14/1981**



Capt. Belechak began his Navy career in November 1953, when he was commissioned an Ensign after completing Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI. In the ensuing years he served in a variety of billets, including EOD on the USS YORKTOWN (CVA-10), Operations Officer USS COLLETT (DD-730) and as Commanding Officer USS ELDER (AN-20), USS SUNNADIN (ATA-197) USS Fidelity (MSO-443) and USS Pawcatuck (AO-108).

Other assignments included serving as U.S. Navy Liaison Officer and Instructor at the German Command and Staff College in Hamburger and Chief Staff Officer, COMSERVRON 8 in Little Creek, VA.

Capt. Belechak holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA and a Master's Degree from George Washington University, Washington, DC. He also attended the Navy War College in Newport, RI.

His awards included Legion of Merit with Combat "V", Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster and Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars.

Captain Stephen Clair Belechak passed away May 11, 1998.