

## OBITUARY

### VADM D. Brian Peterman



Vice Admiral D. Brian Peterman, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.), a distinguished maritime leader whose career spanned more than three decades of dedicated service to the United States, passed away peacefully on March 15, 2026, surrounded by family. He was widely respected for his steady leadership, strategic vision, and unwavering commitment to the safety and security of the nation's maritime domain.

Born in West Chester, Pennsylvania, Vice Admiral Peterman pursued a life of service early on, graduating from West Chester University in 1972 before beginning his career in the United States Coast Guard graduating from Officer Candidate School in 1973. Over the next 36 years he rose through the ranks to Vice Admiral earning a reputation as a thoughtful strategist and decisive operational commander.

Throughout his career, Vice Admiral Peterman held numerous command and staff assignments both at sea and ashore. He commanded the Coast Guard cutters USCGC Campbell (WMEC-909) and USCGC Woodrush (WLB-407), where he demonstrated the leadership and operational excellence that would characterize his service.

Peterman later served as Commander of the Seventh Coast Guard District, overseeing Coast Guard operations throughout the southeastern United States and Caribbean. His leadership in this role was critical to advancing maritime safety, drug interdiction efforts, migrant operations, and disaster response in one of the Coast Guard's most complex operational regions.

In 2006, he assumed his final assignment as Commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Area and Defense Force East, where he was responsible for Coast Guard operations stretching from the Rocky Mountains across the Atlantic Ocean and into the Arabian Gulf, leading tens of thousands of Coast Guard personnel and overseeing a vast fleet of ships and aircraft dedicated to homeland security, maritime safety, and national defense.

VADM Peterman also served on the National Security Council staff at the White House, where he contributed to national defense policy and maritime security strategy during a pivotal period in global security affairs. He served at the White House a second time on the Homeland Security Council where he was Special Assistant to the President for Transportation and Border Security

Vice Admiral Peterman was a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College, where he earned a master's degree in national security and strategic studies. His military decorations included the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, and numerous other awards recognizing his exceptional service and leadership.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Peterman was known as a devoted husband, father, and mentor to generations of Coast Guard officers and enlisted personnel. Colleagues remembered him for his calm demeanor, integrity, and deep commitment to the Coast Guard's core values of honor, respect, and devotion to duty.

Brian is survived by his beloved family, friends, and countless colleagues whose lives he influenced throughout his career of service. He is survived by his spouse, Allie, daughters Jennifer Peterman (Richard) and Rebecca Peterman (Greg), step-son CJ Langlois, grandchildren Sakari Peterman, Nilani Peterman, and Aven Powell, as well as many extended family members and friends who will carry forward his legacy of service and kindness. He was preceded in death by parents Norma and William (Bud) Peterman, brother Michael Peterman, and wife and mother of his daughters, Linda Peterman.

A Celebration of Life honoring Vice Admiral Peterman's love of life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Will McLean Foundation for the [Florida Sand Music Ranch](#) or to the [Eldred Rock Lighthouse Preservation Association](#) (where he and Allie were married) in his memory.

Condolences can be sent to:

Family of D. Peterman  
6914 North Lynn Ave  
Tampa, FL 33604