

Dick Barchi was a man of many parts — to name a few: husband, father, scholar, sailor, classmate, neighbor, leader of men, and man of God. We in MORS knew him as shipmate, analyst, and fellow director/officer in the Society. But above all, we know him as a real professional.

Dick's star rose fast and shone brightly. He graduated near the top of his class at the US Naval Academy in 1966. He was also the Brigade Commander there. After an initial sea tour on the USS Joseph Strauss (DDG-16), he earned a PhD in Operations Research from Johns Hopkins University.

In 1972, he was selected for Admiral Zumwalt's "Mod Squad" Program and served on the USS England (DLG-22) as operations officer — a billet normally filled by an officer with much more seniority and experience.

He served from 1975 to 1978 in the Systems Analysis Division (OP-96) of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. From 1978 to 1980 he was Executive Officer of the USS Spruance (DD-963), the lead ship of a new class of destroyers. His selection for that assignment was another indication that Dick was clearly on the "fast track" in his Navy career.

Dick served next in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, both in the Office of Program Analysis and Evaluation (PA&E) and then as Special Assistant to the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy. Having qualified for command of surface ships, Dick was scheduled to go back to sea this year to command a Spruance-class destroyer.

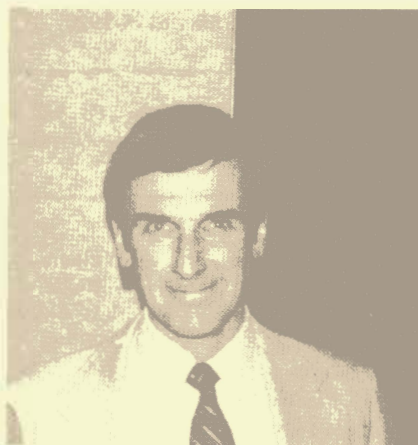
Dick was elected to the MORS Board of Directors in June 1977. Although he was heavily committed with his OP-96 responsibilities, he somehow found the time to become deeply involved in MORS affairs. He reminded us of the old adage: If you want something done right and fast, give it to a busy man. Dick was busy, but he contributed more than his share during his early years in MORS.

Dick was tremendously interested in MORS as a professional society; and he was

IN MEMORIAM

Richard H. Barchi Commander, US Navy

1942-1982



enthusiastic about shaping its future course. What set him apart was his keen intellect and remarkable ability to cut quickly to the heart of complex issues. Always sensitive to the feelings of others, he was nevertheless able time and again to resolve differences and solve problems firmly and tactfully. One MORS director was heard to say about Dick: "For a real smart guy, he sure has more common sense than us practical types."

Even while he was away from Washington as executive officer on a deployed combatant, Dick maintained close ties with MORS. On his return to Washington in 1980, he was appointed chairman of the Publications Review Committee with responsibility for quality control of all MORS publications. In 1981, in recognition of his contributions and ability, Dick was elected Vice President of MORS for Professional Affairs.

Dick was more than just a superb naval officer and a competent scientist; he was a genuine person, interested in people. Things and numbers, by themselves, held little meaning for Dick; it was their relation to people that mattered. He was fascinated by the complexities of modern Navy equipment, and by the accomplishments of properly trained and motivated people under stress. At sea, he saw such accomplishments first hand, in jobs of great responsibility — jobs which he was given ahead of his peers, because of his intellect, sensitivity, and uncommon acumen.

Dick was indeed a real professional in all respects. He recognized what had to be done and he did it smartly, without fanfare, and not for gain or glory but because it was right and proper.

As a military operations analyst, he exemplified the technical and ethical standards of a calling that requires special knowledge and intensive academic preparation. And with it all, he retained that very special drive to get the man — the sailor, the operator, the commander — into the analysis.

In a few short years Dick made a mark on everyone and everything he touched. In MORS and in the profession of military OR, Dick made our lives richer; through him, we learned something more about integrity and professionalism. We are grateful.

Charles E. Woods

Editor's Note: When Dick Barchi died, I had known him precisely five years to the day. Coincidence, yes, but how many contacts does one make that involve such a lasting initial impression as to fix clearly the exact time, place, and circumstance? That is a treasured snapshot. I do not so remember every subsequent meeting that we had, Dick and I, but they were frequent and meaningful, challenging and fruitful. They were professionally and personally satisfying in full measure. I join in the salute to a real pro. Jack Walker