

Obituary: John G.B. Howland '64

John Gordon Brown Howland, 71, of Glenview, Illinois, passed away peacefully on Monday, March 17, 2014. Born in Portsmouth, VA to Captain John B. Howland (USN) and his wife Diana (Gray), John grew up travelling the world with his Navy family. Though the Howlands always considered Rhode Island home, John lived briefly in Virginia, Florida, Hawaii, Rhode Island and New York. He recalled fondly the summers he spent at a small family cottage in Madison, CT. He also told stories of vacationing around the Mediterranean with his mother as they followed his father's fleet from port to port. Like his father and great-grandfather, John attended the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis MD. Graduating in 1964, he spent five years in the conventional and nuclear submarine fleet. Like all officers early in the nuclear program, John was personally chosen by Admiral Hyman Rickover, father of the U.S. nuclear navy, to participate. In later years, John would serve on the U.S. Naval Academy's Board of Trustees and review Academy candidates on behalf of Congressmen John Porter and Mark Kirk. The week after he graduated, John met Karen Chastain as they both waited for space available flights back to their families stationed in Europe. Karen was first to get a flight. When a recent West Point grad on Karen's flight assured John "the Army would take over from here," John took the next plane to France, showing up at Karen's Orleans home unannounced. John and Karen were married at the Naval Academy chapel on February 17, 1968. Leaving the Navy in the early 70s, John joined Citicorp in New York City as a corporate banking officer in the airline and aerospace department. At night, he earned his MBA from NYU. Moving to Chicago, John held financial management positions including treasurer of Skil Corporation and CF Industries, assistant treasurer of American Hospital Supply Corporation, and financial consultant with Duff & Phelps. John also helped found the Treasury Management Association in 1974. Recently re-named the Association for Financial Professionals, it includes over 12,000 corporate finance leaders. Always an entrepreneur at heart, John left the corporate world in 1980 to found CASHFLOW Magazine, a quick success that attracted more than 400 advertising pages annually. Under the auspices of CASHFLOW, an annual conference was launched in 1984 - Treasury Horizons. It continues late each spring in Chicago as The Windy City Summit. Among other firsts, CASHFLOW pioneered the use of digitalized publishing tools. John completed the sale of CASHFLOW to a large British publisher in 1986. With a readership of 80,000, Corporate CASHFLOW, as the magazine became known, was the leader in its field for over 15 years. It was eventually purchased by The Economist Group. In the late 1990s, John founded and served as CEO of Money Minds, a company that helped him fulfill a personal desire: to provide objective, high-quality financial advice to mainstream Americans. Money Minds pioneered providing online financial services, working with thousands of clients across the country. In his recent semi-retirement years, John ran HR Block tax preparation offices, deriving deep satisfaction from helping others understand and overcome the challenges of tax season. John was actively involved in Glenview for over 40 years. He served as an elected member of the District 225 school board, was President of the [Rotary Club](#) of Glenview, and was a founder of Glenview American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) and a member of the AYSO national board. John is survived by his wife and best friend, Karen (Chastain) Howland; his oldest son Jack, Jack's wife, Sue and their children, John and Matt, of Winchester, MA; his youngest son, Nick, Nick's wife, Malou and their children, Bennett and Lukas, of Jacksonville, FL; his brother, David, David's wife, Sanda and their son, Griffin of Vienna, VA; his sister, Kate Caruso and her husband, Rob of Corvallis, OR; his brother-in-law, Timothy Livengood and Timothy's wife, Debbie of Killeen, TX, and Tim's sons, Paul and Devin. John is survived as well as by his uncle, Paul; aunt, Romie; and cousins, Bruce, Jon and Jesse. John was a competitive 5K runner, master swimmer, avid reader, world traveler, proud American, and true conservative who enthusiastically engaged in lively discussions with his many liberal friends. The family will host a memorial service on Saturday, April 5, at 1:00 p.m. at the Glenview Community Church, 1000 Elm Street, Glenview, Illinois. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in John's name to the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society, Attn: Development, 875 N. Randolph Street, Ste. 225, Arlington, VA 22203 (<<http://www.nmcrrs.org>>) or to the AYSO Playership Fund, 19750 S. Vermont Ave., Suite 200, Torrance, CA 90502. Funeral information 847-998-1020.