



CDR John Russell Sopko

Rank/Rate Commander (Commanding Officer)

Birth Date August 22, 1937

From Charleston, South Carolina

Decorations Navy Commendation Medal

Submarine USS Louis and Clark (SSBN-644)

Date of Death September 11, 1974

Location near Charlotte, North Carolina

Circumstances Killed in the crash of Eastern Airlines Flight 212

Remarks Also killed in the crash was [Jack Ira Hoel](#), Commanding Officer of USS John C. Calhoun (SSBN-630).

John's last name is misspelled "Sapko" in some sources

Information courtesy of Frank Reno, STSCS(SS), USN Ret.

Birth: Aug. 22, 1937

Pennsylvania, USA

Death: Sep. 11, 1974

Charlotte

Mecklenburg County

North Carolina, USA

Burial:

[Arlington National Cemetery](#)

Arlington

Arlington County

Virginia, USA

Plot: Sec: 8, Site: 6728

Son of John Thomas and Ann Track Sopko. Husband of Elizabeth S. Sopko. Enlisted in the US Navy 6 Jun 1959. He was a passenger on Eastern Airlines Flight 212 which crashed three miles short of the runway on a foggy morning at Charlotte/Douglas International Airport, killing 69 persons. Thirteen people initially survived, but three died later of their injuries.

Created by: [John C. Anderson](#)

Record added: Mar 06, 2010

Find A Grave Memorial# 49320073