

THE REV. NORMAN E. KOEHLER, III, Ph.D.



He died at Longwood at Oakmont on Friday, July 21, 2023. Son of a Presbyterian minister; graduated from Johnstown High School in 1952. Graduated from Grove City College in 1956; served in the U.S. Navy for 27 years (2 years reserve and 25 active); became a Naval Aviator in 1958; retired as a Captain, USN, in 1981. He has been known as "Chips" for most of his life.

Varied Naval career; a reconnaissance/patrol pilot in Vietnam, Naval Attaché to Greece, Commanding Officer of Patrol Squadron 10 and the Naval Air Station, Brunswick, Maine; Director of Special Operations, Atlantic Command; Executive Assistant to Secretary of the Navy. Awards include the Legion of Merit (3), the Air Medal (2) the Meritorious Service Medal (2) the Vietnam Medal of Valor, and numerous service and unit awards.

He earned the MS Education Degree from Southern Cal, PhD Degree in Education from Pitt, MA Theology from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and is a graduate of the Defense Language School (Linguist 4/5 in Modern Greek).

Following retirement, he worked as a Senior Research Scientist for the Lockheed Corp. for a decade. Then held Capital Campaign/Development posts at Northwestern, Carnegie-Mellon and the Univ. of Pittsburgh and was the founding President of the Pittsburgh Episcopal Foundation. He taught as an adjunct professor of Business Administration for over 12 years at the University of Southern New Hampshire and at Butler County Community College.

Ordained a Deacon in 2002; a Priest in 2006; he served at St. Andrew's, New Kensington, St. Barnabas, Natrona Heights, St. Mary's, Red Bank, St. Paul's, Kittanning and St. Thomas, Oakmont. He is a brother of the Order of St. Luke the Physician [OSLP].

Inducted into the Grove City College Swimming Hall of Fame in 2010; he subsequently received the Jack Kennedy Alumni Award for lifetime achievement to the college in 2011.

He authored two books "In My Father's' Words" (a composite of 50 of his most popular sermons) and "The Wander," an anthropology recounting events in the lives of the Koehler's together over some eight decades.

Married to Virginia Schadt Koehler (Jan) in 1956, they have three children, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Friends and relatives will be received at the **BURKET-TRUBY FUNERAL HOME CREMATION AND ALTERNATIVE SERVICES, INC.**, 421 Allegheny Ave., Oakmont, PA 15139 on Tuesday, July 25, from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church with Navy Military Honors, 378 Delaware Ave., Oakmont, PA 15139 on Wednesday, July 26 at 1 p.m. **EVERYONE MEET AT CHURCH.** Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb