

## Edward A. Godwin

Edward A. Godwin, retired Navy commander, 88, passed away Saturday, April 16, 2011, in a local hospital. He was from Beaumont, Texas, attended Lamar College and was a 1943 graduate of University of Texas. He and his wife, Wanda, have been married for 48 years. In 1943, he went on active duty as a Navy apprentice seaman and reported to duty at Notre Dame University. He was commissioned as an ensign and assigned to Naval Aircraft Firing Center in Algiers, La., as a supply officer assistant. He was sent to Harvard Business School and graduated first in his class. He was part of the invasion of the Philippines and was on the first U.S. warship in Tokyo Bay in World War II. He served on the USS Cates until 1946 and was detached into the Naval Reserve. In 1952, he was recalled for the Korea Conflict as personnel civilian officer at Naval Gun Factory in Washington, D.C. Edward remained active in the Naval Reserve Surface Division in Lake Charles and was promoted to commander in 1969. After his promotion, the Navy allowed him to continue in Reserve as inactive until 1982. He moved to Lake Charles in 1947 and was employed by Cities Service, with which he worked in Personnel and Labor Relations. He then went into business in 1955 and opened Central Credit Rating Bureau and Fontenot Personnel Agency with Kelly Girls in 1969. He worked as personnel director for the city of Lake Charles. He was past president for the American Cancer Society, State Personnel Consultant Society, Military Affairs with the Chamber, YMCA, Calcasieu Personnel Manager, Quelqueshue Stock Syndicate, United Way, Rotary and was a lifetime board member of the Better Business Bureau, treasurer on the Mayor's Military Affairs Committee, and a member of the American Legion, Blue Lodge and Scottish Rite for 50 years. He was awarded the Patriot Award in 2009 by the L.C. Military Committee. He was active in the move of the USS Orleck to Lake Charles.

His survivors are his wife Wanda; sister, Marian Godwin of Beaumont; two daughters, Margaret Jamison of Durham N.C., and Barbara Sage and husband Dave of Peoria, Ariz.; two grandsons; one granddaughter; three great-granddaughters; and three great-grandsons. He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward A. Godwin Sr. and Iva Murrell Godwin; and brother, Robert Dragoo.

His funeral will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 20, at Hixson Funeral Home. The Rev. Jack Myers will officiate. Honorary pall bearers are past presidents of Rotary. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Tuesday, April 19, and continue from 11 a.m. Wednesday. Words of comfort may be expressed with the family at [www.hixsonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.hixsonfuneralhomes.com).

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Church of Good Shepherd, 715 Kirkman St., Lake Charles LA 70601 or the USS Orleck Naval Museum Inc., P.O. Box 4470, Lake Charles LA 70606.

