



## Antonio Ramon Torruella

January 18, 1928 - May 22, 2020

No obituary found for this tribute.

# Tribute Wall

RJ

“ I was stunned to learn of the passing of Tony. He was my roommate at the Naval Academy during the school year 1947-48. We had a third roommate, Fernando Ysunza -Rivera. I followed Tony's whereabouts for years but eventually lost track of him. I often thought about our year together and dearly wanted to correspond with him.

I did visit Tony in his home in San Juan, P.R. one time in the 1950's when my seaplane squadron, VP-44 was operating out of San Juan. I recall dinner with him in his home there and that I had met his father during the daytime. He was directing a worker in pruning fronds from a palm tree in the yard.

Another time, I hired a driver to take me over the central highland mountain road to Ponce to find him. Sadly, I found Tony was not home after having made the hazardous trip over the mountain in a car that I learned on the way had very weak brakes. After this, I virtually lost track of Tony. I heard a rumor that he was located "in Alabama". But, writing to him produced no results.

I will never forget how persistently it was that Tony pursued exercise in our room with his weights. He developed sinews of steel. One day during PT class we went to the wrestling loft where the Naval Academy team trained. Tony and I were assigned to wrestle as part of the PT class. This is how I learned just how strong Tony was as a result of his weight training in our room.

I recall another time after a Navy football game in Baltimore. I see us very clearly sitting at a table in a restaurant. This is where I learned the meaning of "cuba libre", a drink of coca-cola and rum.

I am now 91 years old. It is with great sadness that I learn of the passing of this dear friend from so-long-ago. I retain a very clear vision of him in my mind.

*My sincerest condolences to Tony's family and to Sara, his wife.*

*I wish we could have shared some time together.*

*Richmond B. Neff, Jr.*

*CDR, USN (retired)*

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**Richmond B Neff Jr** - December 05, 2020 at 04:47 PM