

# C.V.

## **Dick Rutkowski (1950 through 2009)**

All dates are as remembered

- 1950            Joined the U.S. Navy and served during the Korean War
- 1950            Entered boot camp, then Radio/Teletype and Morse Code school
- 1951-52        Transferred to Tripoli Libya, North Africa, Wheelus AFB to the Navy's Communication Center for relaying communications from the 6<sup>th</sup> fleet to other commands.
- 1953            Made my first SCUBA dive (recreational)
- 1953-54        Transferred to Pensacola Florida aboard the USS Monterey carrier. The carrier was used for training cadets for their first carrier landing. I was in communications.
- 1954            Honorably discharged from the US Navy
- 1954            Attended IBM (punch card) computer training
- 1954-56        Worked for St. Regis Paper Company in chemistry lab
- 1956            Re-joined the U.S. Navy as a 2<sup>nd</sup> class Radioman/Teletype operator
- 1956            Assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Franklin Roosevelt, CVA 42 as a recomissioned Plank Owner at the Bremerton Shipyard in Washington State. Sailed around Cape Horn and became a Shell Back (The ceremony of **Crossing the Line** is an initiation rite in the Royal Navy, U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, and other navies that commemorates a sailor's first crossing of the Equator by ship.)
- 1958            Transferred to Antarctic Support Activities (USARP) as a radioman and was sent to Byrd Station (Marie Byrd Land Antarctica) for one year
- 1959            With no communications in Antarctica due to poor ionospheric conditions, I worked in the meteorological department to become a Meteorological Technician
- 1959            Honorably discharged from the US Navy
- 1959            I joined Polar Operations which was run by Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA), whose charter was to provide weather stations in the Antarctic and the Canadian Arctic to keep sovereignty rights of these areas
- 1959-60        Attended Meteorological training in Peoria Illinois through the US Weather Bureau

- 1961-62 Sent to the South Pole station 90 degrees South latitude for one year. The coolest day was 110 degrees below zero and the warmest was 19 degrees below zero. The mean for the year was 59 degrees below zero. I served as a Meteorological Technician/Radioman. Served as president of the Antarctic Lions Club
- 1962-63 Transferred to the Canadian Arctic , Northwest Territories, Resolute Bay and Mould Bay; 500 miles from the North Pole as a radioman/meteorological technician (HAM radio operator number VE8MC)
- 1964 Transferred to Antarctica, New Byrd Station as a Meteorological Technician/Radioman (number KC4USN)
- 1965 Deported Polar Operations and joined Atlantic Oceanographic Meteorological Lab in Miami, Florida (AOML) which in 1970 became National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- 1965 Sent to commercial diving school (Divers Training Academy) by AOML/ESSA to begin diver training for scientific government underwater operations in addition I earned diving certifications from the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI), National Association of Underwater Instructors (NAUI) and the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)
- 1965-85 Began conducting the first Dive Training for government agencies in Underwater Diving Operations
- 1965-85 Worked for AOML (Atlantic Oceanographic Meteorological Lab) which was administered by ESSA (Environmental Science Services Administration) and NOAA (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration) as a diver and scientific technician installing meteorological equipment in the oceans, atmosphere, surface and sub-surface. Including locating and recovering lost scientific equipment and recover with diving and electronic equipment
- 1967 The Board of Geographic Names - names a glacier in the Antarctic after me. Rutkowski Glacier  
Latitude: 85°11'S Longitude: 166°21'E
- 1970 Worked with Dr. Morgan Wells to institute diving procedures for the use of oxygen enriched air diving (NITROX) for scientific research diving
- 1970-80 Co-Founded Dive Inc with Ed Brown and serviced oil rigs underwater for Reading and Bates when needed
- 1973 Went on scientific missions to the NOAA undersea lab called Hydro-Lab in Freeport Bahamas to become a NOAA Aquanaut. Involved with all undersea habitats from 1970 to 1985
- 1973 Directed by AOML/NOAA to obtain a recompression chamber to serve South Florida, Central and South America as there were no chambers in the area to serve recreational or military diving community. At this time I also helped Grand Cayman to establish and train their personnel for their chamber facility as well as working with other facilities around the Caribbean to treat recreational divers

- 1974 In addition to my government duties and with the help of the Florida Underwater Council (which I helped to co-establish) we received a US Navy 78 inch diameter chamber and worked night and day with volunteer help to build a building and install the chamber at no government expense
- 1975 The first Diving Medical/Hyperbaric training took place at AMOL at my hyperbaric facility. I was the director of the program which was called "Medical and Physiological Aspects of Recompression Therapy". Speakers included George Bond, M.D., USN; Jeff David, M.D., Col. USAF; Bruce Bassett, Lt. Cil., USAF; Morgan Wells, PhD, NOAA Diving Director and me as Facility Director
- 1975-2008 Served as Co-Director of the NOAA Physicians Diving Medical Program. This program was for physicians only and had more than 700 attendees from all over the world
- 1975-85 Upon my retirement from NOAA more than 500 divers had been treated at the chamber under my direction. In 1985 Marc Kaiser became the director of the NOAA Chamber Facility and another 300 people were treated in the chamber. Before the chamber was shut down at AMOL, Virginia Key and relocated to the NOAA Diving Center in Seattle Washington more than 800 divers were treated by me, Marc Kaiser, Florida Underwater Council Volunteers and Dade County Fire and Rescue Volunteers
- 1975-85 Helped build numerous hyperbaric facilities for NOAA - NOAA Miami, NOAA Aquarius Habitat (now in Key Largo), NOAA in Alpena Michigan to help support research activities in the Great Lakes, NOAA Juno Alaska to help support diving activities in the Bering Sea as well as shipboard facilities
- 1980-85 The NOAA Experimental Living Unit was established on Virginia Key at my facility with Dr. Morgan Wells as Director. Research was conducted at this facility with NOAA, the US Coast Guard, the EPA, and the Army on polluted water diving environments, dress, and other research for diving equipment and diving physiology
- 1980-85 Started the first diver training at the NASA Johnson Space Center for the support divers who train astronauts to work in weightless environments before their EVA (extra-vehicular activity) in space. This training center is called NBL – Neutral buoyancy Lab. I also co-wrote their diver training manuals and was on their first safety board and conducted their first Hyperbaric Training Program. Their M.D.'s still come to my facility, Hyperbarics International, in Key Largo Florida for diving medical training. I also conducted Hyperbaric Training at NASA Huntsville, Alabama
- 1980-2003 Started the first EPA diving training; diving safety board and Oxygen Enriched Air (Nitrox) training
- 1985 Retired from NOAA with 33 years of service with USN, Polar Ops, ESSA/NOAA. While with NOAA I was Director of the AOML/NOAA Hyperbaric Facility; Deputy Diving Coordinator; on the NOAA Diving Safety Board; Director of the NOAA Diver Training program and an AOML Diving Officer
- 1985-present Formed Hyperbarics International, Inc. and continue to build hyperbaric facilities and teach Diving and Clinical Medical Team Training throughout the world

- 1985           Hyperbarics International Inc. introduced Oxygen Enriched Air (NITROX) to the recreational diving community and at that time was the only center in the world offering NITROX certifications to recreational divers
- 1985           Hyperbarics International established a hyperbaric Facility in the Turks and Caicos Islands, Providenciales to conduct hyperbaric training programs for physicians and all allied medical persons from around the world. I sold the facility to a local physician and left the island and established my hyperbaric facility in Key Largo Florida, located at Ocean Divers
- 1988           Formed IAND (International Association of Nitrox Divers) which in 1991 became IANTD (International Association of NITROX and Technical Divers). The first Board of Directors for IANTD included such dive luminaries as Tom Mount, Bret Gilliam, Billy Deans and me
- 1975-present I have helped to establish hyperbaric facilities in numerous countries and trained staff in the use of the chamber to treat diving and clinical patients. These countries include: Grand Cayman, Costa Rica, Turks and Caicos, Bonaire, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Guadalupe, Bahamas, San Salvador, Saudi Arabia, Puerto Rico, Taiwan, Korea, Thailand, and Mexico. I have also helped to establish treatment centers in Hawaii and onboard Ocean Quest Cruise ship
- 1985-present I started the first Booster Recovery diver training program at NASA Kennedy Space Center and diver treatment programs for medical staff aboard their ships Liberty, Freedom and Independence which are Buster Diving Recovery ships and each is equipped with a hyperbaric chamber. I also introduced and trained them in the use of NITROX
- 1985-present Hyperbarics International has trained more than 6,700 persons in Diving and Hyperbaric Clinical Medicine. More than 3,500 have been certified in NITROX diving and other courses such as Trimix and Rebreathers at my facility. I have produced approximately 8 educational manuals on chamber operations, chamber life support systems, gases, treatment procedures, undersea life support systems for open/closed saturation systems; and many papers on all of the previous subjects. In 1978 I co-authored the world's first Dive Accident Management manual. In addition to Rutkowski Glacier I have received many awards and accolades from around the world.
- 2007           Hyperbarics International Inc. donated a hyperbaric facility with science building to Costa Rica. The facility is called "Rutkowski River House Hyperbaric Treatment Facility"
- 1975-Present Wrote extensively and lectured on all forms of diving, diving life support systems, gases, undersea and hyperbaric medicine. I has authored or edited the following: "Instructor/Student Guide for the Use of Nitrogen-Oxygen Mixtures as a Divers' Breathing Gas" (the first training manual for recreational NITROX), "The Complete Guide to Nitrox Diving", "Introduction to Nitrox Diving", "Instructor/Student Guide for Operational Use of Breathing Gases During Hyperbaric Exposures" (a recompression chamber life support manual), "Mixing/Blending for Nitrox and Trimix", and the diving accident management manual mentioned above. In addition I was a contributor and editor to the NOAA Diving Manual and more than 60 other publications and training films.

**1975-Present** Founder of Hyperbarics International, Inc. Key Largo Fl. Past president and vice president of the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society, Gulf Coast Chapter and the co-founder of International Association of Nitrox and Technical Divers, American Nitrox Divers International (ANDI), the International Board of Undersea Medicine, Undersea Breathing Systems, Undersea Research Foundation, the Alliance for Marine Ecology and Conservation (Costa Rica), and the Association of Marine Ecology and Conservation (Florida). I also organized and founded diving safety organizations such as the Florida Underwater Council and the Society of Diving Safety (SUDES)

**Accolades** For my long, dedicated service I have received many awards and honors. Which include: the Rutkowski Glacier in Antarctica named for me in 1967 by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names; the 1976 NOAA Public Service Award; a nomination for the 1976 Dade County (Florida) Outstanding Citizen Award; and a nomination for honorary Ph.D. from Florida International University. In 1995 I was elected to the Explorers Club as a Fellow. Organizations such as the US Army, the US Navy, the Florida Underwater Council, Divers Alert Network, the National Association of Underwater Instructors, NAUI and the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI 536) have bestowed various honors and awards upon me during my career

This C.V. is written from memory. Dates and events are as accurate as I can recall.