

General Information

OBITUARY

FOR SEAN B. HINDS

MAY 10, 1955 – FEBRUARY 4, 2021

Former Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) employee



With heavy hearts, the Hinds Family sadly announces the passing of a loving father, brother, brother-in-law, uncle, and friend. Sean Bernard Hinds, loving brother and devoted father passed away at his home on February 4, 2021, at the age of 65. Sean fought a courageous battle with cancer, diagnosed during COVID-19, which made his fight that much harder on both him and his children.

Sean was born May 10, 1955, in Barrie, Ontario, Canada. He spent his childhood in Barrie, London, and then Thornhill. He started his own family in Georgetown, then moved to Manotick, and later retired in Nepean, Ontario, Canada. Sean had an extraordinary career. He received his Honours Diploma in Hydrographic Survey Technology from Humber College in 1981. He was commissioned as a Canada Land Surveyor and was a Field Hydrographic Surveyor for the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS). He helped create the nautical charts and the digital infrastructure to allow for the safe and efficient navigation at sea and in the Great Lakes. Early in his career Sean was posted to expeditions to chart the Arctic Ocean where his team lived in tents in extreme weather conditions. In the Arctic, Sean even survived a helicopter crash and lived to tell the story of the rescue amidst a fierce storm. Eventually Sean became a Senior Advisor in the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) for CHS travelling to many countries to share his knowledge and work within the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) community, where he was very active and much appreciated by all international colleagues who had the privilege to work with him. In 2012, Sean was honoured for his hard work and service to the Government of Canada with a special Governor General's Award, the Queen Elizabeth's II Diamond Jubilee Medal. This recognition was a source of pride for both his family and his father who travelled to Ottawa for the ceremony. At the end of 2015, Sean retired from DFO after 35 years of dedicated service. He came back to contribute as a part-time employee with the CHS in

2016. He was the key player to architect and develop one of the most important Hydrographic Program investments ever seen in Canada since the creation of CHS, through the implementation of Canada's Ocean Protection Plan.

While Sean had a uniquely fascinating career and received national recognition for his work, he would say that his best lifetime achievements were Matt, Chris and Kait. Sean's undying passion was family. He instilled strong family values in his children and taught them to love the outdoors as much as he did. One special place where Sean and Lynn created many family memories was Temagami, where Lynn's family had their cottage.

Sean encouraged his children to pursue their personal interests as he did. Sean had a passion for sailing, travelling, cooking and reading. He was an accomplished sailor joining his sister and brother-in-law on many sailing trips in the British Virgin Islands. Sean spent four months when he retired exploring New Zealand, Australia and sailing the South Pacific. He volunteered his time maintaining Canada's historical boats and attending many historical re-enactments. He was also a gourmet and took great pride in preparing special family dinners complete with fine wines and the odd fine Scotch! He was an avid reader, which he inherited from his father. His children have fond memories of Sean reading bedtime stories night after night, and introducing them to *The Hobbit*.

Sean was also generous of heart and well known in his parish for his volunteer work, making food and Christmas baskets for those in need. He was an articulate orator and his three sisters will cherish memories of Sean's heartfelt toasts to the brides at each of their weddings. He loved to remember special occasions, such as birthdays by sending cards always accompanied with a beautifully crafted personal note and ending with a happy face or a little flower. Sean was a deeply sensitive man who leaves a broken heart with everyone who loved him.



Sean will be laid to rest with his parents in Barrie, Ontario, Canada at a later date.

General Information

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IN MEMORIAM Etienne CAILLIAU (1939-2020)

Gilles BESSERO
Former IHO Director
Former French Hydrographer
Member of the French Maritime Academy

It was with profound sadness that the French hydrographic community learned of the passing of Ingénieur general Etienne CAILLIAU, former Deputy Director of Shom and former Director of his Brest establishment, just a few days after the 300th anniversary of the creation of the Dépôt des Cartes de la Marine, the forerunner of Shom. These few lines are a tribute to his memory, curiosity and unwavering commitment to serving French and international hydrography.

C'est avec une grande tristesse que la communauté hydrographique française a appris la disparition de l'ingénieur général Etienne CAILLIAU, ancien directeur adjoint du Shom et ancien directeur de son établissement de Brest, quelques jours à peine après le 300^{ème} anniversaire de la création du Dépôt des cartes de la Marine, ancêtre du Shom. Ces quelques lignes sont un hommage à sa mémoire, sa curiosité et son engagement inébranlable au service de l'hydrographie française et internationale.

Con gran tristeza la comunidad hidrográfica francesa se enteró de la muerte del ingeniero general Etienne CAILLIAU, ex vicedirector de Shom y ex director de su centro de Brest, pocos días después del 300º aniversario de la creación del Depósito de Cartas de la Marina Francesa, antecesor de Shom. Estas algunas líneas son un tributo a su memoria, curiosidad e inquebrantable dedicación al servicio de la hidrografía francesa e internacional.

Although Etienne CAILLIAU was senior to me by 12 years at the French Hydrographic Office, I was fortunate to benefit from a friendly and trusting relationship with him, from my post-graduate curriculum when I followed his hydrography course in 1975-76 in Paris to his retirement time during which we continued meeting regularly as members of the Navigation and Oceanology Section of the French Maritime Academy. Our relationship was all the stronger as I was his deputy during my first field survey assignment in New Caledonia from 1978 to 1980.

Etienne CAILLIAU had a wide-ranging and distinguished career and showed a constant attention to national and international cooperation.



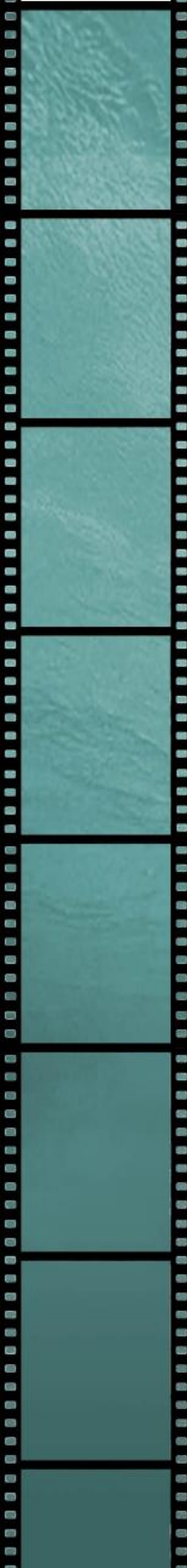
Figure 1. *Ingénieur général Etienne CAILLIAU
aboard the survey ship La Pérouse in 1995*

After his graduate training at the prestigious “Ecole Polytechnique” and post-graduate theoretical and practical hydrographic training he was assigned in 1964 to the Oceanographic Research Bureau of the French Hydrographic Office (BEO - *Bureau d'études océanographiques*) based in Toulon on the Mediterranean coast. The BEO had been created in 1960 as the first HO component dedicated exclusively to oceanographic research in support of the French Navy. Etienne CAILLIAU participated in several oceanographic cruises and was involved in the assessment and deployment of the first electronic CTD equipment.

His next assignment in 1967-68 was a step back to more traditional hands-on techniques. As Head of the New Caledonia Survey Mission in the South West Pacific, he strove to get the most out of limited and worn out means to lead and progress the surveys of a vast and challenging overseas area.

After a short stint at the Survey Directorate in Paris, he went back to sea from 1970 to 1974 as deputy to the Director of the Atlantic Survey Mission and then to the Director of the Atlantic Oceanographic Mission, both based in Brest. During that period, he was responsible for the scientific equipment of the new survey ships *D'Entrecasteaux*, *L'Espérance* and *L'Estafette*. He led the trials and assessment of the first prototype side-scan sonar operated by Shom. He was also actively involved in organizing and conducting the high-resolution bathymetric survey of the mid-Atlantic ridge as the first phase of the French American Mid-Ocean Undersea Study (FAMOUS) which was the first-ever marine scientific exploration by manned submersibles of a diverging tectonic plate boundary on a mid-ocean ridge. The survey was conducted on board FNS *D'Entrecasteaux*, one of the very few survey vessels equipped with a stabilized narrow-beam deep-sea echosounder.

As Head of Shom Cartographic Department from 1974 to 1978, Etienne CAILLIAU expanded again his professional scope and was keen to push for the introduction of new tools and processes through supporting and promoting the development of the concept of “assisted cartography”. He joined the Marine Cartography Committee of the International Cartographic Association in 1977 and remained a member until 1986.



His second assignment to New Caledonia as Director of the Pacific Oceanographic Mission from 1978 to 1980 was another opportunity to promote the modernizing of methods and equipment. He promoted the wider use of terrestrial and satellite electronic positioning systems, introduced the use of programmable electronic desktop calculators and developed a pragmatic doctrine for side-scan sonar surveys in coral environments. In parallel he was highly active in strengthening a constructive dialogue with defence and civil users of surveys and nautical charts in order to address more efficiently their requirements, while considering the logistical constraints resulting from the significant distance between his two main areas of responsibility, French Polynesia and New Caledonia - homeport of his survey flotilla, more than 4 500 km apart. Fully aware of the importance of the human element, he was very attentive to on-site continuous education of the staff.

Returning to Shom main establishment in Brest (EPSHOM), Etienne CAILLIAU was Head of the Nautical Information and Publication Department from 1980 to 1983. His term of office was marked with the full operational capability of the NAVAREA II coordinating centre operated by his department. He placed greater emphasis on studies related to the development of digital publications and initiated needs assessment surveys related to French merchant ships plying international trade routes and recreational boating. He remained attentive to these issues during his subsequent three-year tenure as Deputy Head of Shom General Studies Directorate in Paris. He embraced with enthusiasm the broad remit of the Directorate both at national and international level. As a member of the newly formed IHO TALOS Working Group, he actively contributed to the first edition of the Manual on Technical Aspects of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. He was also an ardent proponent of the development of the electronic chart. Building on his overseas experience, he promoted a regional approach to “Hydrography in the North-South dialogue”, notably through extending the Regional Hydrographic Commission network.

In 1987, Etienne CAILLIAU left Shom and was appointed Director of Oceanic Research at the French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (Ifremer). With a broad range of activities under his supervision, including physical and chemical oceanography, marine geosciences, deep ocean environment and associated biotechnologies, he continued to encourage out-of-the-box thinking and the use of cutting-edge technologies and to promote international cooperation and open access to the results of scientific and technical research. He represented Ifremer in several international fora, including the World Ocean Circulation Experiment, the Ocean Drilling Programme and the Processing and Archiving Facility of the European Remote Sensing satellite system and chaired the French National Committee for the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

Etienne CAILLIAU returned to Shom in 1992, first as Deputy Director and from 1994 as EPSHOM Director. These were challenging times when Shom had to face ever-growing needs, notably in relation with defence requirements, coastal zone management and the advent of the digital era, while facing persistent budgetary difficulties. “Doing more with less” led to streamlining Shom organization, implementing an ISO-based quality approach, reducing the nautical chart and publication portfolio and focusing on strategic initiatives. A major collective success was the launch of the Mercator project in cooperation with all national

stakeholders with the objective to develop a high-resolution modelling and prediction programme of the world Ocean. This project was the foundation of to-day Mercator Ocean, the operator of the European Union (EU) Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service. Under the leadership of Etienne CAILLIAU, this period saw the deployment of Shom intranet and internet network, the start of the digital Notice to Mariners service and the start of the production of Electronic Navigational Charts. All along, Etienne CAILLIAU remained committed to openness to the outside and strengthening Shom contribution to local, regional, national and international cooperation. He represented Shom in Ifremer Scientific Committee from 1996 to 2001 and was the first chairperson of the Board of Directors of the European Institute for Marine Studies (IUEM) created in Brest in 1997.

Etienne CAILLIAU left active service in 2001 after a final assignment as Deputy Director of the Ministry of Defence Centre for Higher Armament Studies. Unsuccessful candidate to the IHB Directing Committee election in 2002, he was elected member of the French Maritime Academy in 2003 and appointed that same year as one of the IHO representatives of the GEBCO Guiding Committee. He was a reliable and active member of the Committee until his resignation in 2013.

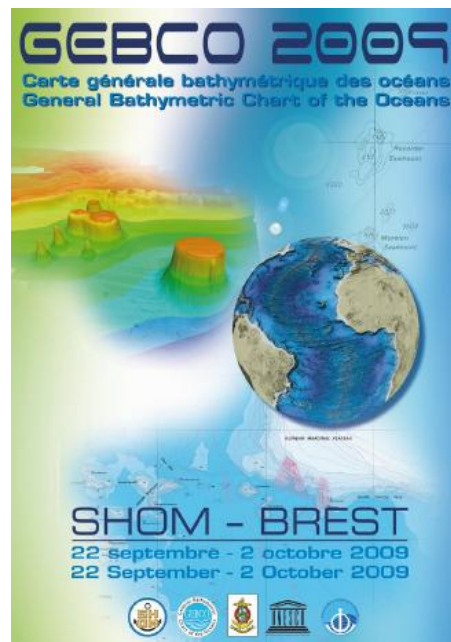


Figure 2. Poster of the GEBCO meetings held in Brest, France in 2009 at the initiative of Etienne CAILLIAU, member of the GEBCO Guiding Committee.

Progressively impaired by a merciless Parkinson disease that finally struck him down, Etienne CAILLIAU stopped all interactive activities in 2015.

Let us salute his positive attitude and empathy and let us keep in mind and cherish his outstanding legacy.

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IN MEMORIAM RDML Richard T. Brennan

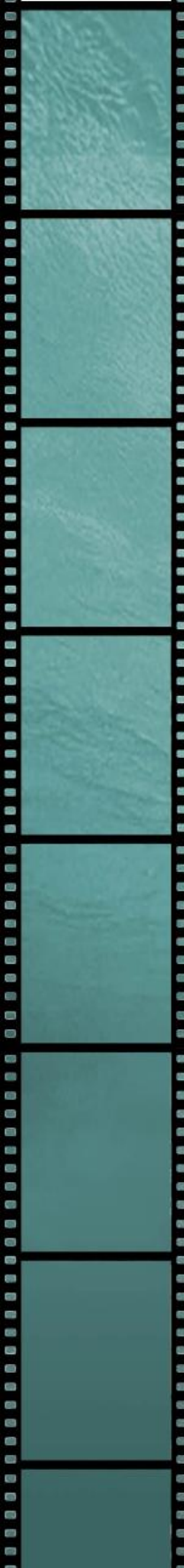


It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Rear Admiral Richard “Rick” Brennan, Director of NOAA’s Office of Coast Survey. Rick passed away the evening of Thursday, May 13, 2021. A loyal and deeply empathetic leader, Rick served the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps and nautical charting community for nearly three decades. Rick will be remembered for his passion for NOAA’s mission, as a role model for countless employees, a talented and knowledgeable hydrographer, and a man dedicated to family and friendship.

Rick graduated from The Citadel, in Charleston, South Carolina, with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering. After a brief stint as a bridge engineer, he was commissioned in the NOAA Corps in January 1992.

Rick’s first assignment as a NOAA Corps officer was to the NOAA Ship *Rude*, a 90 foot hydrographic vessel that was conducting side scan sonar surveys in the Narragansett Bay area. From the beginning, it was apparent that Rick loved hydrography. He worked long hours and showed himself to be technically competent in all phases of the ship’s operation. Just as important, the officers and crew aboard the ship liked and respected him. In August 1992, Rick played an integral role in *Rude*’s survey after the grounding of the *Queen Elizabeth 2* (QE2) in Vineyard Sound. As a NOAA diver, Rick helped to identify the precise rocks where the QE2 grounded—even recovering metal shards from the ship’s hull.

Over his 29 years with NOAA, Rick served on nearly every hydrographic ship in the NOAA fleet as well as three years on a mobile field party. His sea assignments include operations officer, NOAA Ship *Rude*; operations officer, NOAA Ship *Whiting*; commanding officer, NOAA Ship *Rude*; executive officer, NOAA Ship *Fairweather*; and most recently commanding officer, NOAA Ship *Rainier*. His mobile field party time included a year on a navigation response team and two years as the officer in charge of NOAA Vessel *Bay Hydrographer*. In addition to his NOAA time at sea, he also was privileged to serve on the U.S. Coast Guard icebreaker



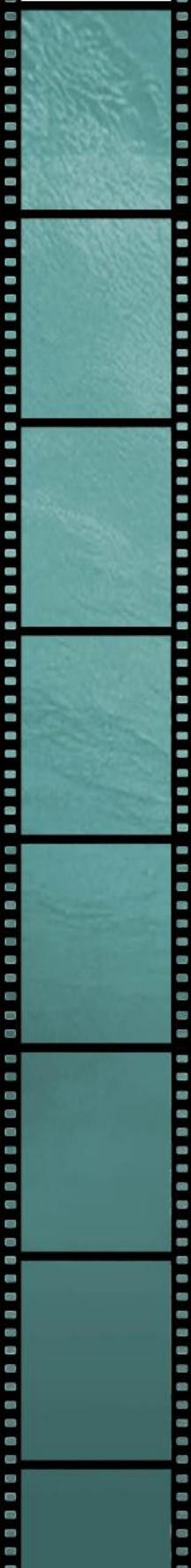
Healy as a member of the science team conducting bathymetric surveys in support of the United States Law of the Sea claim. These assignments carried him through the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean to the Gulf of Maine and from the Oregon Coast all the way up to Chukchi Gap in the Arctic Ocean.

While ashore, RDML Brennan completed a Master of Science degree in Ocean Engineering at the University of New Hampshire's Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping. He specialized in ocean mapping, acoustics and tidal error models. After graduate school, he was assigned to lead Coast Survey's Hydrographic Systems and Technology Program. This branch's main responsibility is technical support for the NOAA hydrographic community and transitioning new technology into operations within the fleet. He was awarded the Department of Commerce Bronze Medal in this position for his work implementing the Tidal Constituent and Residual Interpolation (TCARI) program in the hydrographic fleet. Subsequently, Rick served as the chief of the Atlantic Hydrographic Branch (AHB) in Norfolk, Virginia. He provided both leadership and technical direction to a staff of 21 physical scientists who conducted quality assurance and cartographic compilation for all East Coast hydrographic surveys conducted by NOAA, both in-house and contractor acquired.

While assigned to AHB, he also served as NOAA's mid-Atlantic Navigation Manager, gathering maritime stakeholders' charting requirements and bringing NOAA assets to bear on their concerns. He earned the NOAA Corps Commendation Medal in this role, and more notably the Department of Commerce Silver Medal for his service during Hurricane Irene in coordinating NOAA resources to open the port of Norfolk. Other recent assignments include serving as the Chief of the Coast Survey Development Laboratory, and senior policy advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Observation and Prediction at NOAA headquarters. While assigned to the Assistant Secretary's staff, Rick was heavily involved with development of the NOAA Fleet Plan. This effort combined Rick's deep love of ships and the sea with his vision for a modern fleet, and has placed NOAA on a path to sustain and expand its at-sea data collection missions.

Rick's most recent assignment prior to promotion to Director of the Office of Coast Survey was as Chief of the OCS Hydrographic Surveys Division (HSD). At HSD, Rick led the Precision Navigation initiative at NOAA, operationalizing bathymetric and surface water currents products from NOAA's coastal models to make them accessible in marine navigation systems. The U.S. was the first nation to demonstrate this breakthrough implementation of an international standard that has long stymied the global hydrographic community. He was also the driving force behind the National Bathymetric Source project, transforming compilation and delivery of bathymetric data for nautical charting, precision marine navigation, and a wide range of coastal management applications. One of his most notable achievements as Chief was producing the "Mapping U.S. Marine and Great Lakes Waters: Office of Coast Survey Contributions to a National Ocean Mapping Strategy." The plan highlights Coast Survey's contributions to implementing the 2020 *National Strategy for Ocean Mapping, Exploring, and Characterizing the United States Exclusive Economic Zone* (NOMECE).

Rick was involved in NOMECE from its inception, first helping to draft the strategy, with particular focus on mapping U.S. waters and the standards, tools and techniques to do so. But his real interest was in implementing the plan; in his all-



too-brief time as NOMECE Council Co-Chair, Rick dove into his advocacy role for regional campaign mapping, the national security aspects of the effort, and the potential offered by uncrewed systems and other technology improvements to expand mapping efficiently. He was a huge proponent of integrated ocean and coastal mapping, putting action to words with commitments of ship time and resources to campaigns such as EXPRESS (Expanding Pacific Research and Exploration of Submerged Systems). He also understood the importance of sustaining relationships with the private sector, academia and other mapping stakeholders in order to explore the art of the possible, a skill that came naturally to him.

In 2020, Rick was elected President of The Hydrographic Society of America (THSOA). He was promoted to Rear Admiral (lower half) and Director of the Office of Coast Survey on April 20, 2021. Although only serving as Director for a few weeks before his passing, his vision was clear.

He committed to continue OCS' path towards a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive organization. He led by example by treating everyone with respect and dignity, supporting both professional development and personal well being.

One of Rick's priorities as Director was to reimagine the partnership between NOAA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Coast Guard. Rick inaugurated the new "Trident" on April 23, 2021, an initiative that is sure to live on as a strengthening of these key relationships.

Rick's leadership was also felt internationally in his role as the new U.S. National Hydrographer. He gave presentations to the Indian Navy before sunrise; discussed product partnerships with friends in the UK in the morning; built relationships with our neighbors in Canada during the day; and met with our colleagues in Asia in the late evening.

Rick firmly believed that another one of his most important leadership roles was to communicate and cultivate passion and excitement about the "why" of hydrography and its importance to the nation and the world, in order to provide clarity and focus about how the work is done.

Admiral Brennan's professionalism and passion shall be his enduring legacy. He will live on in the hydrographic and NOAA Commissioned Corps communities as his vision is carried forward with the same dedicated hard work and collaboration to bring the benefits of service and hydrography to those we serve and to all the world.