



A Tribute to Our Friends: Captain Bob Horan, USN (ret.) and Patrick Horan

In 2012 and 2013, Accessible Space, Inc. (ASI) lost two of our dearest friends, partners, and passionate supporters. On August 11, 2012, Captain Robert (Bob) A. Horan USN (ret.) passed away at his home; and, sadly, about a year later, Captain Bob's son, Patrick Horan, 55, passed away, too. Captain Bob Horan, 82, was born in Manchester, New Hampshire. He entered the U.S. Navy where he was commissioned an ensign through the Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. His naval career brought his wife, Betty, and sons, including Patrick, from Hawaii to Japan and everywhere in between. After a tour of duty in Vietnam, Captain Bob retired from the U.S. Navy and fulfilled his dream of becoming a bus driver like his father.

In 1977, Patrick Horan (Pat) was involved in a diving accident that left him paralyzed from the neck down. Inspired to assist his son and others with physical disabilities, Captain Bob sailed into a new venture: he founded and would remain the only president of the Accessible Housing Corporation of South Hampton Roads (AHC). In 1994, AHC—a voluntary nonprofit organization dedicated to building independent living apartments for very low-income adults with mobility impairments—invited Accessible Space to be a partner in

Eastern Virginia. From then on, ASI and AHC would work together to develop 60 units of accessible, affordable housing for very-low income adults with physical disabilities in Norfolk, Chesapeake, and Exmore, Virginia over the next 15 years.

In 1999, Pat became a resident of The Anchorage apartments in Norfolk, Virginia, a 25-unit accessible and affordable apartment community owned and managed by ASI. Pat was also a member of ASI's Board of Directors, and his soulful enthusiasm plus support for ASI's mission was always evident. Not only was he a strong advocate, he was never content to simply complain and expect others to solve the problem. Pat found a way to "get 'er done." He understood the need for collaboration, and without his and Bob's help, ASI's "housing with care" would not be available in Virginia.

Pat passed away on June 5, 2013, in Virginia Beach, Virginia. He possessed much of the same determination and passion as his father, and although we can't say for sure, we're guessing Pat and Bob were together watching their favorite ball club, the Boston Red Sox, win the World Series that year.

ASI salutes Captain Bob and his son, Pat. We are forever grateful to have known you and to have been encouraged by your kind stewardship of our shared mission.

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