

Dick Rutkowski
C. V. / BIO
(1950 through 2015)

All dates are as remembered

- 1950 Joined the U.S. Navy and served during the Korean War.
- 1950 Entered boot camp then completed Radio/Teletype and Morse Code school.
- 1951-52 Transferred to Tripoli Libya, North Africa, Wheelus AFB into the Navy's Communication Center for relaying communications from the 6th fleet to other commands. Earned WWII Occupation Ribbon.
- 1952 Made my first SCUBA recreational dive.
- 1953-54 Transferred to Pensacola Florida aboard the USS Monterey carrier doing communications. The carrier was used for training cadets for their first carrier landing.
- 1954 Honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy.
- 1954 Attended IBM (punch card) computer training.
- 1954-56 Worked for St. Regis Paper Company in the chemistry lab.
- 1956 Re-joined the U.S. Navy as a 2nd class Radioman/Teletype operator.
- 1956 Assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Franklin Roosevelt, CVA 42 as a recommissioned Plank Owner at the Bremerton Shipyard in the state of Washington. 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 U.S. Navy.
- 1959 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 U.S. Weather Bureau.
- 1961-62 Sent to the South Pole station 90 degrees south latitude for one year. The coldest day was 110 degrees below zero and the warmest was 19 degrees below zero. The mean temperature for that year was 59 degrees below zero. Served as a Meteorological Technician/Radioman in addition to president of the Antarctic Lions Club.

- 1962-63 Transferred to Canadian Arctic, Northwest Territories, Resolute Bay and Mould Bay; 500 miles from the North Pole as 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. Earned diving certifications from Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI), National Association of Underwater Instructors (NAUI), and the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA.)
- 1965-1985 Began conducting the first Dive Training for government agencies in Underwater Diving Operations.
- 1965-1985 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 named a glacier in the Antarctic in my honor. Rutkowski Glacier Latitude: 85°11'S Longitude: 166°21'E.
- 1970 Worked with Dr. Morgan Wells to institute diving procedures for use of oxygen enriched air diving (NITROX) for scientific research diving.
- 1970-1980 Co-Founded Dive, Inc. with Ed Brown. Serviced oil rigs underwater for Reading and Bates.
- 1973 Went on scientific missions to NOAA undersea lab, Hydro-Lab in Freeport, Bahamas to become a NOAA Aquanaut. Involved with 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 the recreational or military diving communities. Helped Grand Cayman to establish and train their personnel for their chamber facility. Additionally, worked with other facilities around the Caribbean to treat recreational divers.
- 1974 In addition to government duties, along with the help of the Florida Underwater Council (which I helped to co-establish), received a US Navy 78 inch diameter chamber. We 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 called "Medical and Physiological Aspects of Recompression Therapy." Speakers included George Bond, M.D., USN; Jeff David, M.D., Col. USAF; Bruce Basset, Lt. Col., USAF; Morgan Wells, PhD, NOAA Diving Director and myself 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 world wide.
- 1975-1985 Upon retirement from NOAA more than 500 divers had been treated at the chamber under my direction. In 1985, Marc Kaiser 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 myself, Marc Kaiser, Florida Underwater Council volunteers, and Dade County Fire and Rescue volunteers.
- 1975-1985 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 Juneau, Alaska to help support diving activities in the Bering Sea as well as shipboard facilities.
- 1980-1985 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 U.S. Coast Guard, the EPA, and the Army on polluted water diving environments, dress, and other research for diving equipment and diving physiology.
- 1980-1985 Started the first diving training at the NASA Johnson Space Center for the support of divers who train astronauts to work in weightless environments before the EVA (extra-vehicular activity) in space. This training center is called NBL – Neutral Buoyancy Lab. 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 UNS, Polar Ops, ESSA/NOAA. While with NOAA, was Director of the AOML/NOAA Hyperbaric Facility; Deputy Diving Coordinator; a member of the NOAA Diving Safety Board; Director of the NOAA Diving 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. At that time was the only center in the world offering NITROX certifications to recreational divers.

- 1985 Hyperbarics International, Inc. 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. The facility was sold to a local physician.
- 1986 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 myself.
- 1975-present 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. Also helped to establish treatment centers in Hawaii and onboard the Ocean Quest Cruise ship.
- 1985-present 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 Booster Diving Recovery ships and each is equipped with a hyperbaric chamber. Also introduced and trained their staff in the use of NITROX.
- 1985-present Hyperbarics International, Inc. has trained more than 7600 persons in Diving and Hyperbaric Clinical Medicine. More than 4000 have been certified in NITROX diving and other courses such as Trimix and Rebreathers at my facility. I have produced many educational manuals on chamber operations, chamber life support systems, gases, treatment procedures, undersea life support systems for open/closed saturation systems; along with multiple papers. In 1978, co-authored the world's first Dive Accident Management manual.
- 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. Have 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, 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, Florida. 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 Conservations (Florida). Also organized and founded diving safety organizations such as the Florida Underwater Council and the Society of Diving Safety (SUDES).
- 2011 I was presented with the Craig Hoffman Memorial / Charles W. Shilling Award at the 44th UHMS Annual Scientific Meeting. This award was for outstanding contribution to teaching, education and/or diving safety, with particular reference to supporting the goals of the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society in educating the diving community and the public about the science and practice of diving and clinical hyperbaric medicine.
- 2012 I received the History of Diving Museum, Dr. Joe Bauer Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Diving Community
- 2012 I was nominated for the DEMA's Diver Hall of Fame Reaching Out Award.
- Accolades For my long, dedicated service, I have received many awards and honors. These include: Rutkowski Glacier in Antarctica; 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 U.S. Army, the U.S. 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 including the Oldest Active Instructor 45 Year Appreciation Award, DEMA Reaching Our Award and entry into the "Diving Hall of Fame," Nov. 2012.

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